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Cabinet okays central bank intervention in bond market

THE cabinet yesterday gave the Bank of Israel the means to intervene in the bond market to moderate unusual price drops precipitated by the massive flight of savers from provident funds.

Shortly after the cabinet meeting, the central bank announced a tender for tomorrow to purchase NIS 250 million in government bonds with maturities of five years or longer from the public to reduce excess supply and stabilize prices. The Bank of Israel noted that the move is not intended to interfere with basic market trends, but only to moderate them.

To avoid flooding the economy with an additional NIS 250m. in cash, the cabinet approved raising the limit on unlinked short-term bonds (*makam*) issued by the central bank by NIS 5.5 billion to NIS 15.5b. This will enable the bank to reabsorb the cash it spent to buy government-linked bonds through sales of its short-term bonds, and thereby avoid inflationary pressures.

Most of the cabinet meeting was taken up with a review of recent economic developments by Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, with a focus on the bond market crisis.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin enumerated three central problems the government must tackle. It must immediately deal with the provident fund crisis; address the complex of interest rates and the exchange rate, which will determine economic growth; and restore the public's trust in the its economic policy.

Following Frenkel's learned explanation of what ails the economy and how to cure it, many

JOSE ROSENFELD

ministers still had no clue. Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni even said, "I don't understand what you are talking about."

Rabin noted that macro-economics is important, "but what is even more important is to explain to the individual what will happen to him as a result of the government's decision."

After reading the draft decision prepared by Frenkel and Treasury Director- General David Brodet, Rabin said: "This is not written in language that people can understand," and asked them to redraft it.

The cabinet expressed its full confidence in the economy's strength and its conviction that the positive trends that characterized the economy in 1994 will continue.

It declared that provident funds provide a stable investment channel, backed by government bonds, whose value at their redemption date is assured. The negative yields the funds registered last year were mostly the product of the large drop in stock prices. However, stocks only make up 10% of the funds' portfolio. Since 1988, the funds' yield averaged 3.7%, even when last year's -8.5% yield is included.

Frenkel said that there are signs that inflation is on the way down, as are inflationary expectations. He added that the central bank plans to lower interest rates in accordance to progress in attaining the government's inflation goal of 8% to 11%.

Brodet told the cabinet that, based on an analysis of inflation in the past three months, consumer prices are rising within the range of the government's target.

Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban warned that the government should be more concerned about the danger of a recession than about inflation, adding: "We cannot allow moves aimed at arresting inflation to be so far-reaching that they negatively impact on economic growth."

He noted that, in the long term, it will be impossible to stabilize the capital market without imposing stricter limits on bank activities in general, and on their involvement in the capital market, in particular.



An accordionist on Jerusalem's Ben-Yehuda pedestrian mall receives a kiss from a Makuya member during the Japanese group's annual march through the capital yesterday. (Brian Hendler)

Rabin says Iran is responsible for Arad's fate

Two Germans provide more details

IRAN is responsible for the fate of missing airman Ron Arad, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin declared last night, following two more reports that he is being held in Teheran.

"We have a basis to believe that Arad is being held by official Iranian circles, although it is not clear where," Rabin told reporters in Jerusalem, after addressing a UJA mission from Dallas, Texas.

"The Iranians have not given concrete information to either the French or the Germans," Rabin said, "So we cannot say anything definitive. But it is clear that Iran is responsible ... Ron Arad was known to be alive about a year after his capture. We regard Iran as the address for returning him home safe and sound."

He said he understood the distress of the Arad family because of the conflicting information about Ron.

Yesterday, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zietung* reported that a Turk who is now a German citizen, and was held until recently in an Iranian jail, said he was told by guards that "an Israeli pilot is held in Ward 209, where all maximum security prisoners are held."

Wuda Olef Skota told the paper that he was never told the Israeli's name, or his condition. The paper continued to claim

BATSHEVA TSUR and ALON PINKAS

that German-mediated negotiations between Israel and Iran on the release of Arad were held in Germany.

Meanwhile, another German citizen, Helmut Shimkos, who was imprisoned in the same prison, revealed more details about the whereabouts of Arad yesterday. Shimkos, an engineer, was jailed on suspicion of spying for the CIA.

"In 1991, I was sitting with two Americans, one of whom was a pilot who had some flight magazines. The warder then asked us if we had some magazines to give to another pilot in the prison," he told Channel One. "That made us suspicious and so we asked around to find out who this could be. But we didn't find out anything and we didn't imagine then that it could be Ron Arad."

An official government statement released here said the possibility of Arad being held in an Iranian jail "can be neither refuted nor corroborated, since there are no signs of life given in the testimonies by people who claim to know."

Arad's wife Tami said she would not have anything to say until her husband returns, Channel One reported.

Asked about last year's establishment of a committee to look into the fate of all the MIAS, Rabin said: "It is good that someone that does not deal daily with the subject checks if the path we have chosen is right."

The official statement also said that Iranian authorities have been holding Arad for more than six years and are responsible for his fate, health, and safe return.

"This determination we make is based on reliable and concrete information. Iran has systematically refrained from disclosing any information on Ron Arad, while falsely denying that it has any information concerning him," the statement said.

The Prime Minister's Office, meanwhile, denied that a visit by an aide to Chancellor Helmut Kohl has any connection to Arad. The aide, Joachim Bieterlich, arrived yesterday and is scheduled to meet today with Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Officially, he is here to discuss commercial issues, but diplomatic sources said that he is here to prepare for a possible Kohl visit. The sources said he will be asked to convey a message expressing Israel's dissatisfaction with expanding economic ties between Germany and Iran.

Meanwhile, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmoud Wazi said yesterday that Iran was willing to sign the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty with minor corrections, among them that Iran be eligible to receive advanced nuclear technology from developed countries.

Aloni: Give Palestinians Negev land

COMMUNICATIONS Minister Shulamit Aloni's proposal that Gaza be extended either into the Negev or into Gush Katif to compensate the Palestinians for Jewish construction elsewhere drew heavy fire from the right and the Palestinian Authority yesterday.

"We must not give the Gazans the feeling that we're just getting rid of Gaza, and telling them to stay imprisoned there and sort out their own problems," Aloni told Israel Radio yesterday. "The negotiations should be more dynamic, whether it's to let them redeploy in new areas or finally allow [Palestinian elections].

"And when the government decides to build, for whatever reason, in Givat Ze'ev and Ma'aleh Adumim, which is conquered land, it must offer them an alternative."

Aloni said that the Gazans lack room and a possible solution would be to expand Gaza into Israel.

"It's sort of an exchange of lands," she said. "The only compensation we can give is in the area between the Gaza Strip and Eilat. In peace there is give and take, not only take," she said.

PA Economics Minister Ahmed Qreia (Abu Ala) rejected Aloni's proposal, telling AP: "Expanding the Gaza Strip should not be at the expense of other Palestinian land in the West Bank."

LIAT COLLINS

MK Ze'ev Begin (Likud) called on Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin to fire Aloni for her remarks.

"It's unacceptable that a minister in the government of the State of Israel should talk about sovereign Israeli territory as if it were produce in a Middle Eastern shuk," Begin said.

"It's a dangerous statement. It says that the government is willing to exchange land with an authority which hasn't even been defined yet. I don't think we should be raising this idea."

Settler spokesman Aharon Domb dismissed the idea as "nonsense." But Peace Now activist Galia Golan, welcomed it. According to *Ha'aretz*, Peace Now is planning to publish a proposal for a final settlement this week. It is said to include Israel's keeping significant parts of the territories, those where there are Jewish settlers.

Meretz MKs refused to comment on Aloni's remarks.

Her comments are expected to come up in the Knesset this week. Today, two no-confidence motions over Rabin's statement that he would ease the closure even if it meant endangering Israelis are scheduled. The motions were filed by the Likud and by the National Religious Party, together with Tsomet.

The cabinet, meanwhile, decided to keep the five-week closure of the territories intact. Ministers said they would consider easing it if there are no terrorist attacks following the end of Ramadan later this week.

Only about 15,000 workers have been issued special permits to enter Israel. The closure was also eased briefly on Friday when thousands of Moslems from Judea and Samaria were allowed into Jerusalem for prayers marking the last Friday of Ramadan.

Israel Radio said the ministers also rejected an appeal to ease restrictions on the movement of agricultural produce from the Gaza Strip, after hearing a report that the Beit Lid suicide bombers had entered Israel in a gravel truck.

Aloni's plan has some backers, Page 2

Rabin tells Jewish leaders: US budget cuts could destabilize Mideast, weaken influence

US congressional budget-cutting could reduce the prospects for a stable Middle East peace and cause the US to lose world power, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned last night.

Rabin's remarks to the annual fact-finding mission of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations came on the eve of tomorrow's crucial Senate vote on a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget.

"I would like to have a balanced budget, too. [But] I believe the United States – if it wants to influence events in the world – [cannot] be isolationist, with all the consequences that can happen to the world as a result of that," Rabin said.

DAVID MAKOVSKY

Rabin was very upset about a House foreign operations subcommittee vote last week that slashed supplemental debt relief to Jordan from over $200 million to $50 million.

After hearing about the vote, Rabin said he "I started to realize the possibility to achieve peace in the region will be reduced."

He said if the Arab people do not attain a peace dividend from peace with Israel, "there will be no stable peace."

"The US cannot carry a real foreign policy without being strong militarily and without having a foreign aid bill," he said. Pursuing an isolationist policy would cause the US to lose global influence, he added.

In a combative speech to the American Jewish leaders, Rabin warned of the dangers of those who don't seek to compromise with Arabs, suggesting that some of those adherents are false messiahs.

Safra drops out of bidding for control of Bank Leumi

GALIT LIPKIS BECK and JOSE ROSENFELD

EDMOND Safra, the sole bidder for Bank Leumi's controlling stake, yesterday notified Finance Minister Avraham Shohat of his decision to pull out of the tender.

Shohat accepted the decision with regret, and announced that the government would proceed with the sale of Bank Leumi. In the coming days, Shohat will call a meeting on this matter, to determine which steps must now be taken to privatize the bank.

M.I. Holdings chairman Uzi Steinberg said Safra's decision to withdraw from the tender did not surprise him, noting that hesitations by the Safra Group led to a delay in the sale process over the last few weeks.

"Safra did not finish the licensing process. The whole process was delayed because of business considerations. We were only at the start of the sale process. The Safra's didn't even start their valuation of the bank," said Steinberg.

Steinberg manages the government-owned company managing the sale of the bank shares. He said the Treasury will return the $20 million Safra was required to deposit with the accountant general in May, 1994 in order to participate in the tender.

The government is selling a block of shares representing 20% to 40% of Leumi's voting rights and issued share capital.

Sources close to the sale said Safra objected to the Bank of Israel's decision to condition the purchase of Bank Leumi on the Safra family's selling the First International Bank. Edmond Safra's brothers control First International Bank. The Bank of Israel decision was based on the argument that giving the Safra family control over two of Israel's five largest banks will not help promote competition.

K. assumes position as new head of GSS

AT a short ceremony before the start of yesterday's cabinet meeting, the new GSS head, K., officially assumed his new post, replacing Y.

Y.'s picture and full name can be published on Wednesday.

At the ceremony, attended mainly by cabinet members, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin praised Y. for his work. Y. and K. then each spoke briefly.

Y. completes his service after nearly seven years, during which he instituted numerous reforms. He also allowed more media coverage of the service than ever before. He was criticized, however, for appearing at many social events and for his friendships with public and society figures.

The appointment of K., 44, was also criticized inside and outside the service, with several senior officers resigning after the appointment was announced.

Following the cabinet meeting, Communications and Science Minister Shulamit Aloni criticized the fact that the prime minister decides on the appointment of the GSS head by himself. In principle, she told reporters, no important decisions should be made by one person alone.

But K.'s appointment was praised by most of the other ministers. "I know the new GSS head well," said Environment Minister Yossi Sarid. "I sleep well at night knowing that he is in charge of our security." (Itim)

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Sidon blockade apparently eased

SIDON (AP) – Fishermen sailed out to sea early yesterday off this port city and Israel Navy gunboats disappeared from the horizon, signs that Israel was easing a ban on fishing off Lebanon's southern coast.

However, the blockade remained in force on about 50 kilometers of coastline, from the border town of Nakoura to the oil harbor of Zahrani, about 10 kilometers south of Sidon.

Israel imposed a fishing ban off Tyre on February 8. On Thursday, Israeli gunboats used their machine guns to scare off fishermen and expand the blockade further north to Zahrani and Sidon, the provincial capital of south Lebanon.

"This is part of our effort to send a message to the Lebanese, that if they want to maintain their everyday life, including fishing, let the southern part of Lebanon also live in peace," Economics Minister Shimon Shetreet told reporters. He was speaking after the cabinet discussed the blockade.

A Defense Ministry source said the gunboats were meant to put pressure on Beirut to rescind a series of recent measures which caused "hardship and humiliation" for residents of the security zone.

"Without bombs, without cannon shells, we are sending this signal to Beirut: we won't allow the Lebanese government to humiliate our allies in the south, or embitter them in an effort to 'turn' them to support Hizbullah terrorists there," the source said.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur said the naval blockade was to pressure Beirut to halt guerrilla attacks in the south.

"If we must suffer, our neighbors will not sit peacefully either," he said.

An estimated half of Sidon's 350 fishermen went out to sea to fish overnight. Sidon's usually bustling fish market was open for business yesterday.

Fishermen questioned in the morning reported no incidents during their venture, which took them to waters north of the city. Fishermen said they avoided sailing south.

Israeli naval units, however, fired warning shots to prevent fishermen who sailed from Sarafand and Adloun, small fishing harbors between Zahrani and Tyre, from going out to sea.

In other developments, the SLA yesterday reported that one guerrilla was killed and two were wounded in south Lebanon.

The SLA said its forwardmost outposts in the western sector of the security zone spotted the guerrilla casualties near the village of Majdal Zoun just outside the enclave after they heard an explosion.

They speculated the guerrillas were trying to infiltrate into the security zone when explosives they were carrying exploded accidentally.

Deri defense attacks prosecution witness

JACOB DALLAL

ARYEH Deri's lawyer trial yesterday called into question the mental health and memory of the state's main witness, Ya'acov Shmuelevitz, in its first day of cross-examination.

Defense attorney Dan Avi-Yitzhak said that Shmuelevitz had been discharged from the IDF on grounds of mental health in 1980, and that Shmuelevitz himself told the police that he could not serve as a witness because he suffered from severe memory lapses.

"I am showing and will continue to show that you are fantasizing," Avi-Yitzhak told a red-faced Shmuelevitz.

The atmosphere in the courtroom, filled with Deri supporters, was tense. A nervous Shmuelevitz spoke quickly, staring at the judges, never looking at Avi-Yitzhak.

He admitted having memory problems after a head injury suffered while in the army. "I was injured in 1978, and had memory problems for about a year. But this was 16 or 17 years ago."

Avi-Yitzhak countered that in 1991, Shmuelevitz told police he had "severe memory lapses" and that he was therefore unfit to serve as a witness.

"I said this to get out testifying," Shmuelevitz replied.

Avi-Yitzhak: "So you lied to the police?"

Shmuelevitz: "Yes. To get out of testifying."

When Avi-Yitzhak started asking him about the reasons for his discharge from the army, Shmuelevitz asked the panel of three judges to respect his right to privacy and asked that the questions be asked behind closed doors. After lengthy deliberations, the judges agreed.

During the deliberations, Shmuelevitz said that his army file, which details his mental health at the time and explains the reason for his discharged, had been removed. He said he received a phone call in 1993 and the caller threatened that the details of the file would be exposed.

Since then, Shmuelevitz said he has been receiving telephone threats, both here and abroad. Since his return to Israel for the trial, Shmuelevitz said his wife received similar threats, and had reported them to the police.

Earlier in the proceedings, Avi-Yitzhak asked Shmuelevitz if he held a grudge against Moshe Weinberg, his former rabbi and a co-defendant in the case.

"Did he do you wrong?" Avi-Yitzhak asked.

"Yes, in a larger sense," Shmuelevitz replied.

"I was 25 when I became religious. I came to Jerusalem ... and studied in the in the [Weinberg's] *kollel*, and he became my rabbi.

"A person who becomes religious is completely dependent on his rabbi. It's a whole new way of life, and the rabbi tells you what is right and wrong."

When he had asked Weinberg whether it is all right to cheat the government, Shmuelevitz said, Weinberg replied: "It's permissible to cheat on requests for money; you don't have to tell the authorities the truth. There aren't enough allocations, and therefore it's all right to take {money illegally}."

The defense is likely to question Shmuelevitz for the next several days.



Members of the Women in Green protest against the peace process outside the Jerusalem hotel where Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was giving a speech yesterday. Some 350 right-wingers opposed to the peace process also demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's Office last night. (Reuter)

Afula residents barred from Jenin demo

HERB KEINON

THE IDF yesterday reportedly kept a group of Afula activists, headed by Mayor Zadok Nawi, from entering Jenin. The group had hoped to join a group of settlers from Samaria to look at IDF installations as a demonstration against government plans to withdraw from the town.

However, the IDF responded yesterday by saying that the group did not request to go into Jenin, but rather, to the neighboring settlement of Ganim.

Some 60 settlers from Samaria went to an army post in Jenin and, at the entrance, unfurled maps of the area that showed the IDF installations. They vowed to take over these positions as soon as the IDF leaves.

The group from Afula was to meet up with the settlers, but was kept out by the IDF. In the end, however, the IDF allowed Nawi to join the settler group.

"We already see the next stage," said Nissan Slomiansky, head of the Elkana Local Council, who organized the demonstration. "The army will withdraw from Jenin, and it will turn into another Gaza. It will be a shelter for terrorists, and a base for terror against cities such as nearby Afula.

"We are all praying that the IDF does not withdraw from these positions," he said. "but if it does, we will move in."

Slomiansky said he was encouraged that a number of Afula residents also decided to take part, and said their participation was particularly significant.

"Rabin can write off the settlers,'" he said, "but he has to pay attention to opposition to this plan from cities near Jenin."

PA police visit returned fugitive

JON IMMANUEL

WELL-WISHERS, including Palestinian police, for the second day yesterday crowded into the Gaza home of returned former Fatah Hawks chief Yasser Abu Samahdaneh, a wanted terrorist who evaded the Israeli navy and returned to Gaza Friday two years after fleeing to Libya.

According to a 1993 investigation by the B'tselem human rights group, Abu Samahdaneh was responsible for 37 killings, including three women. At least 25 were killed by him personally. His execution of Jamal Fada, a drug dealer, was photographed and pictures were published in the press.

Israeli security sources say that Abu Samahdaneh, as Fatah Hawks chief in Rafiah in 1992-93, was connected with the lynching of soldier Yehoshua Weissbrod, who took a wrong turn into the town.

Evidence given to B'tselem by Palestinians, including Fatah members, after Abu Samahdaneh fled Gaza in April 1993, described him as extremely violent, bloodthirsty, cruel and brutal.



Yasser Abu Samahdaneh in a 1993 photograph. (R. Magnes)

But Fatah official Diab Ellouh said, "He has no problem in Fatah." Whatever problems he had in Fatah he said "I can't discuss. It happened in the past."

Fatah does not rule out that Abu Samahdaneh, will become a policeman like several hundred other Fatah Hawks, possibly a senior position in intelligence whose job will include seeking out collaborators.

A senior security police official said that such a decision "would have to be taken by the president."

Israel had previously refused to allow him back, and the Palestinian Authority did not demand his return. But the PA is not likely to extradite him to Israel, because his suspected participation in Weissbrod's death occurred before the Oslo agreement.

Savir, Qreia meet in J'lem about industrial parks

DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAELI, Palestinian, and US officials agreed last night that seven to nine industrial parks will be established immediately in areas under the administration of the Palestinian Authority, according to a statement issued by Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir.

The trilateral meeting, held at the Foreign Ministry, was attended by Savir, PA Economics Minister Ahmed Qreia (Abu Ala), US charges d'affaires James Larrocco, US consul-general in Jerusalem Ed Abington, and John Colby, a representative of the US Agency for International Development.

By hosting the meeting, Savir apparently enabled the US officials to circumvent the US directive that forbids contact between US officials and members of the PA in Jerusalem.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat will meet today with Abu Ala in Jericho to review issues related to the implementation of the economic agreement with the Palestinians and to deal with problems that have arisen.

US Jewish leaders slam Islamic radicalism

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE US media focus on the O.J. Simpson trial has eclipsed another trial that affects the safety of Americans and people all over the world – that of Sheikh Abdul Rahman and his Islamic fundamentalist colleagues, said Lester Pollack, outgoing head of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations.

Rahman is being tried for World Trade Center bombings.

"The threat of Islamic radicalism is a threat to democracy... in the entire world and we hope to bring about a higher level of consciousness globally" about this issue, Pollack said yesterday.

He was speaking at a press conference in Jerusalem to mark the opening of the conference's annual fact-finding visit to Israel of scores of top Jewish leaders. The delegation is headed by Pollack and executive vice-chairman Malcolm Hoenlein.

The Jewish leaders were extremely encouraged by President Bill Clinton's legislative package aimed at eradicating fundamentalist terrorist activity, Pollack said, noting that the legislation dealt with matters such as the transfer of funds and strict border controls.

"We are greatly disappointed by the European governments' refusal to do likewise, but we expect the enactment of the legislation will have a profound effect," Hoenlein added.

Describing the atmosphere in Congress following the recent US elections, Pollack said that relations remained equally good with the Democratic minority and the Republican majority. "Foreign aid for Israel is expected to remain safe in the coming year," he said.

Pollack said there was a clear consensus in the organized American Jewish community in support of the peace process. But during their visit here, the leaders would be exposed to diverse views, he said.

"Our job is to build on the consensus. It is for the people of Israel and their government to decide on specific steps," Hoenlein added.

Reviewing other issues dealt with over the past year, Pollack said that the conference had begun organizing large numbers of Jewish communities to come here next year to participate in the celebrations marking the 3,000th anniversary of Jerusalem.

Aloni said what many have come to believe

COMMENT

DAVID MAKOVSKY

COMMUNICATIONS Minister Shulamit Aloni for the first time said publicly what some Israeli and Palestinian sources have said privately.

She suggested "border modifications" that would entail yielding sovereign lands to compensate Palestinians for retaining control of some settlements.

Nobody stepped forward to endorse the idea of trading barren land for settlements, but it is being thought about by Israelis and Palestinians – though not necessarily in the terms outlined by Aloni.

The concept of "territorial exchange" was first utilized by Israel during its negotiations with Jordan, culminating in last October's peace treaty.

Under the treaty, Israel retained approximately 30 kilometers of Arava farmland taken by the IDF in the late 1960s, in return for yielding an equivalent amount of Israeli soil in the Arava. Israel also arranged a lease-back agreement for some territory in Tzofar and Naharayim.

Some believe that offering to trade barren soil for a similar amount of Judea and Samaria is what will ultimately get the Palestinians to agree to discuss Israel's annexing some Jewish settlements in the territories during final status negotiations.

In a final-status map suggested by Joseph Alpher, Middle East director of the American Jewish Committee, Israel would seek to retain 11 percent of the territories, home to 70 percent of the settlers, an estimated 85,000 people. This map has been endorsed by Environment Minister Yossi Sarid.

Arafat bans newsletter for insulting Hussein

JON IMMANUEL

PALESTINIAN Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat banned a daily Gaza newsletter yesterday for insulting King Hussein, and welcomed a delegation from Jordan seeking to open a Gaza office.

Last July he closed down the daily *An-Nahar* for a month because it was pro-Jordan. Since then relations with Jordan have improved, despite doubts over Jordan's claims on Moslem shrines in Jerusalem.

Arafat banned the newsletter, *A-Raged*, for an editorial this weekend which said, "Your Majesty who sold the West Bank cheaply with your honorable hands to Israel, I want to know what is your position on Jerusalem." The paper is edited by Samih Samara, head of the Gaza Voice of Palestine TV station.

Kadoumi: Nullify Oslo accord

ON the eve of the convening of Fatah central committee and the PLO central committee in Tunis next week, Farouk Kadoumi, head of the PLO foreign affairs department, called on Yasser Arafat to abrogate the Oslo agreement and return to the Madrid conference framework.

In the New York edition of the London-based Saudi daily *El-Shark El-Awsat*, Kadoumi said it is time to admit that the Oslo framework has failed."

Shmuel Segev

Editors Committee protests 'Post' ban

THE Israel Editors Committee has written to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak expressing its dismay at the banning of *The Jerusalem Post*.

"The Israel Editors Committee takes this antidemocratic step very seriously and strenuously protests it," the committee said in a weekend statement. "This action violates the freedom of the press and freedom of expression. We call on the Egyptian government to cancel the ban immediately."

Irim

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Rabbi Ya'akov Rosenberg
on the untimely death of his brother
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هكذا من الأصل



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin shakes hands with one of a dozen or so supporters who demonsrated outside his office yesterday. (Brian Hendler)

They came to cheer Rabin – but few came

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin left his office to greet a rare demonstration in support of his policies, only to find virtually nobody there.

An aide told Rabin about supporters gathered outside the cabinet meeting yesterday with signs proclaiming: "Rabin, we are behind you for peace," and suggested it would be a nice gesture to go out and speak with them.

Journalists were quickly called, and told the premier would leave the cabinet meeting to greet demonstrators. Indeed, one cannot remember the last time Rabin has stepped outside his office or home to meet with demonstrators, even when they were supportive.

The journalists came. The cameras were whirring and clicking.

The only problem was that instead of a throng of people in attendance, there were only a dozen supporters on the rocky hilltop across from the Prime Minister's Office.

Apparently disappointed, Rabin stayed only 90 seconds, declining friendly offers of a cup of coffee. "I have to return to the cabinet," he said.

Yehuda Doron, a member of Kibbutz Shefayim, said he was not concerned that so few people were on hand to publicly back the peace process.

An official in the Prime Minister's Office expressed embarrassment at the turnout. Another source tried to explain the non-event by saying that it is easier to mobilize people to oppose a policy than to support it.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Missing woman found safe

Police feared that a woman from a Galilee village, who disappeared over the weekend with her baby, had been murdered by her husband. However, on Saturday night, the woman called her parents and told them she was staying at a hotel in the Tel Aviv area.

The woman, who recently gave birth, refused to go home to her husband, and police are trying to determine the reason. *Itim*

Lau trys to end brouhaha at dig

Work was suspended at the Jaffa archeological site that has sparked recent haredi protests, after Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau involved himself in the affair over the weekend.

On Friday, Lau convened a meeting between haredi representatives and Udi Ilan, the initiator of the construction project that led to the "rescue dig," and told them to come up with compromises to end the clash. The sides, with Lau as mediator, met again Saturday night. While there was no resolution, Ilan agreed to halt work yesterday as a gesture. (Itim)

Man suspected of statutory rape

A 23-year-old man from the Western Galilee who is suspected of having committed statutory rape of his 14-year-old girlfriend was remanded yesterday for 10 days by the Acre Magistrates Court. The girl's parents alerted police after she did not return home Friday night. She was found the next morning at the man's apartment and police believe that the man exploited the girl after a night on the town. *Itim*

Bat Yam mugger gets 6 years

A Bat Yam man convicted of mugging seven pedestrians in Holon and Jaffa was sentenced to six years' imprisonment by Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. Avraham Nardia, 34, confessed to attacking pedestrians in November and grabbing their possessions, including gold jewelry and cash. In most of the incidents, Nardia ripped gold necklaces off his victims necks, including those of an eight-year-old girl and a 81-year-old woman. *Itim*

Probe of Rackover sought

Civil Service Commissioner Yitzhak Galnoor has asked the official in charge of disciplinary action in the service to investigate remarks reportedly made by deputy attorney-general Nahum Rackover regarding the rights of homosexuals.

Speaking to the Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee last week, Rackover said that if the state grants benefits to the partners of homosexuals, it would eventually have to grant them to animals that some people have sex with. Galnoor said the reported remarks are not becoming of a civil servant, who must represent the position of the civil service before a Knesset committee, and not his personal views. *Itim*

Burg seeks theft inquiry

Acting Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg has instructed the head of the finance department to give him a detailed report, within 24 hours, of how blank checks worth millions of shekels were stolen from the agency's Tel Aviv offices.

Burg also asked the agency's comptroller to look into the matter. The theft was discovered by officials of the finance department.

On Friday, police arrested two men on suspicion of breaking into agency offices and cashing in stolen checks worth NIS 1.5 million.

Hundreds await conversion

Hundreds of new immigrants who have completed conversion classes are waiting more than a year for the rabbinical courts to authorize their conversion, according to Jewish Agency Aliya Department head Uri Gordon.

He said that only two conversion courts, one in the North, and one in the South, are currently operating. They are staffed by volunteers, and only authorize about 20 conversions a month, he said.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ace of spades. 10 of hearts, seven of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

Judge expresses sympathy for Dinitz's argument

JERUSALEM District Court Judge Shalom Brenner, presiding over the fraud trial of former Jewish Agency chairman Simcha Dinitz, yesterday expressed sympathy for one of Dinitz's arguments regarding why he used an agency credit card for both personal and business expenses.

Prosecutor Shimon Dolan was questioning Dinitz about the credit card, asking him why he did not pay for personal items with cash or traveler's checks.

Dinitz replied that it was an matter of convenience, and that one couldn't expect a man in his position to be walking around with cash or traveler's checks.

He said he had assumed his personal expenses were being deducted from the credit card statements.

At this point, Brenner said that when the late prime minister David Ben-Gurion would buy philosophy books abroad, he didn't take out his wallet and pay for them, that was always taken care of by others.

Dolan replied: "Even when the prime minister goes to the store to buy things, he pays for them."

Dinitz, in his testimony, has often likened his status as agency chairman to that of a prime minister.

Brenner: "It is only human and natural ... you have to understand the argument that the prime minister doesn't deal with such procedural matters."

Dolan: "I don't understand the argument. Ben-Gurion lived in a shack in Sde Boker. No one asked Dinitz to live in a shack."

He added that it is not acceptable to make personal purchases on the account of the institution one works for.

Dinitz then said he was prepared to swear that prime ministers did not report all their personal expenses.

Dolan: "Show me someone who bought things in the quantity that you bought them."

Dinitz: "I was assuming that my personal expenses were being deducted." (Itim)

Tel Aviv official's car bombed

RAINE MARCUS

POLICE are investigating bombing that destroyed the car of Tel Aviv municipal director Meir Doron early yesterday.

The bomb exploded at around 2 a.m. outside Doron's Ramat Hasharon home.

Police said the motivation was criminal and they are now investigating who had a score to settle with Doron.

Following the explosion, Doron said that the incident would not deter him from going about his daily business.

"I will not bow down to these threats," said Doron. "I will continue issuing demolition and evacuation orders, as is my duty. No one will receive any illegal privileges. I will not be frightened by this incident."

Police sources said that Doron had recently received threats.

Cellular phone competition makes it to capital

JUDY SIEGEL

CELLCOM comes to Jerusalem today, giving residents of the capital and its environs the chance to buy and use cellular phones based on advanced TDMA digital technology.

The company arrives in Jerusalem two months after Cellcom introduced its service in the Dan Region and signed up 26,000 subscribers. Cellcom service in the Haifa area will begin on March 21.

Jerusalem has many senior public officials who use cellular phones on the job. Until now, they have been subscribers to Motorla/Bezek's Pelephone service. Cellcom claims its digital technology protects subscribers against "bugging" and nearly eliminates interference on the line.

It was more difficult to hook up Jerusalem than Tel Aviv, according to Cellcom vice president for engineering Shalom Manova. Because of topographical extremes, a special effort was needed to instal transmission stations high enough to offer coverage throughout the area.

TDMA phones are being sold in four outlets in Jerusalem: Cellcom's own store in the Jerusalem Mall; Sensor in the same shopping center; Kaniti in the center of town; and Tatrun in Talpiot. The Jerusalem stores increase to 11 the number of outlets for Cellcom phones.

Oren Most, vice president for marketing, said signing up 26,000 subscribers in two months is "an unprecedented pace" anywhere in the world. Four models, manufactured by Motorola, Nokia and Ericsson are on sale at between NIS 1,600 to NIS 2,800 plus VAT. Airtime is 8.5 agorot per minute around the clock, and there are no installation charges.

Pelephone had delayed reducing its charges significantly, but with the Jerusalem debut, Pelephone rates are now expected to come down.

Cellcom hired 50 professional staffers in Jerusalem in recent weeks and now has a total of 350 employees. The consortium, which received a license for 10 years, was established by BellSouth, the Safra Brothers, Discount Investments and Israel Aircraft Industries.

Negev residents protest expansion of Duda'im dump

AMIR ROZENBLIT

"WELCOME to the Yossi Sarid dump," read the huge sign that greeted members of the Knesset Interior Committee yesterday when they visited the Duda'im landfill, about five kilometers west of Beersheba.

The MKs were greeted by dozens of high school pupils, who had been bused to the site at the initiative of Beersheba Mayor Yitzhak Rager. The pupils burned tires and shouted slogans to protest Environment Ministry plans to expand the dump.

Under the ministry's plan, the dump, which now handles about 700 tons of trash a day – mainly from settlements in the northern Negev – will be expanded to handle 4,000 tons a day from all over the country.

Negev residents oppose the plan.

As he watched the smoke wafting toward Beersheba, committee chairman Yehoshua Matza said that more than any documents, the burning tires drove home to him the concern of Negev residents.

Jerusalem police foil firebomb plan

BILL HUTMAN

Two Jerusalem Arabs who planned to throw firebombs at Jewish worshipers at the Western Wall on Shabbat have been detained by police, the Jerusalem police spokesman said yesterday.

The two, 22 and 16, are believed to be affiliated with Hamas.

The minor was detained Thursday, and the adult on Saturday. They allegedly planned to throw firebombs from the Temple Mount onto Jewish worshipers at the Western Wall below.

They hoped to use as cover the thousands of Moslem worshipers at Al-Aksa Saturday evening for Lailat al-Kadr prayers marking the end of Ramadan.

Unstable Beersheba youth said to be prey of drug pushers

AMIR ROZENBLIT

BEERSHEBA police are concerned about drug pushers using unstable pupils to push drugs in Beersheba and Eilat high schools.

The high school students mostly sell marijuana and ecstasy pills.

Negev District police chief Yosef Avni told reporters yesterday that five pupils had been arrested recently for selling drugs at Beersheba and Eilat schools. He noted that some of them are new immigrants.

"Most of those involved are good kids," Avni noted.

He said police are taking countermeasures, such as raiding nightclubs, and also working with educational authorities to prevent the spread of drug use among pupils.

Shmuel Levi, commander of the police's Southern District, placed part of the blame on parents, especially in Eilat, where he said parents do not see the severity in the use of marijuana by their children.

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Helpless civilians trapped in Grozny

GOITY (Reuter) – Hundreds of mostly elderly civilians are trapped under fierce Russian bombardment in a southern district of Grozny without food or medicine, witnesses who slipped out of the city on foot said yesterday.

"Conditions in Chernorechiye (district) are the worst of the war," reported Hassan, a Chechen who walked out from Chechnya's devastated capital through a forest to try to arrange evacuation of sick and wounded civilians.

"We have 18 wounded civilians, some of them very seriously injured. There is no food or medicine to speak of. I personally have buried 12 elderly who died of starvation in recent days."

Independent confirmation of the situation was provided by a Russian reporter, a woman who asked not to be named, who hiked out of Grozny on Saturday with Hassan after being trapped in Chernorechiye for a week.

"Chernorechiye needs humanitarian aid and somebody needs to go in with a bus and bring the wounded out," she said.

"Russian artillery fire never lets up. People are living in cellars without food or running water or light. It's terrible."

The reporter identified most of those remaining in Chernorechiye as elderly ethnic Russians.

Russian troops occupied the centre of Grozny early in February after nearly two months of bitter street fighting. Chechen fighters clung on to some southern suburbs, including Chernorechiye.

The Russians completed an encirclement of the city last Tuesday, cutting the Rostov-Baku highway south of Grozny and dimming Chechen hopes of mounting anything more than hit-and-run attacks inside the capital.

Evidently believing Chernorechiye still to be swarming with Chechen troops, the Russians have pounded the residential district with artillery fire all week, witnesses said.

Russian artillery fire tailed off in the early morning hours on Saturday and remained relatively light throughout the day, reporters who visited towns south and east of Grozny said.

The people of Shali, about 20 km southeast of Grozny, were still in shock yesterday from a Russian bombing raid on their town the day before which killed seven civilians and wounded 15 others.

Two children and their parents were killed and the family's remaining two children were wounded when Russian warplanes bombed the neighborhood on the southern edge of Shali in the middle of Saturday afternoon, witnesses said.



UN peacekeepers from Bangladesh struggle to keep an angry mob from breaking down a gate to the Mogadishu docks, as the UN prepares to leave Somalia. (AP)

Angry clans clash as UN quits Somalia

News agencies

MOGADISHU

RIVAL Somali clans battled with mortars, grenades and machine guns outside the main gate of the Mogadishu airport yesterday as UN peacekeepers prepared to withdraw from Somalia.

At least one mortar bomb slammed into the airport runway and bullets whizzed over the heads of US, Italian and UN troops camped out at the fortified base, witnesses said.

The shooting did not appear to be directed at foreign troops, who will withdraw from the airport and sea port in the next few days.

US military officials said it was the biggest firefight since in the Somali capital this month, and some fear it could signal bloodier struggles for control of the airport and seaport when the peacekeepers leave.

Pakistani UN soldiers at the airport gates took cover and were not seen firing back into the streets where the fighting flared in fierce but sporadic bouts.

More than 2,000 US Marines and Italian soldiers are expected to sweep ashore at some point during the next week to secure part of Mogadishu's port and airport facilities. They will form a rear guard for the withdrawal of about 2,400 Pakistani and Bangladeshi troops.

If the fighting continues, some military commanders said it could complicate the withdrawal operation, which has been going smoothly until now.

"It's been pretty intense," said Staff Sergeant Matt Mutarelli, US Army Special Forces. "This is the most firepower we've seen since we've been here."

Mutarelli, who observed the battle from a sand dune post, said the clans fought on "technicals": small trucks mounted with guns and anti-aircraft weapons.

"The tactics are crude, but effective. Doesn't seem to be anyone really in charge," he said.

About 600 Somali policemen were deployed at air and sea ports in southern Mogadishu after the facilities were closed to commercial traffic. Pakistani peacekeepers in tanks patroled the airport, but apparently made no move to interfere in the fighting outside.

Protesters gathered in the area, criticizing the forces aiding the UN withdrawal, and some waved a banner reading "Down Operation Shield," referring to the backup operation for the UN withdrawal.

The two-year UN mission helped prevent starvation but failed to restore political order and end clan rivalries.

Hundreds of Somalis and more than 120 UN troops, including 42 Americans, have been killed during the mission.

In the hour before fighting erupted at the airport gates, another battle involving mortars and machineguns erupted between rival clans in the war-damaged Bermuda district.

The clash appeared to be unrelated and was between militias of the Murusade and Abgal, the clan of faction leader Ali Mahdi Mohamed who controls the north of the city and is a bitter rival of Aideed.

Zhirinovsky in Iraq, urges anti-West coalition

BAGHDAD (Reuter) – Russian ultra-nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovsky said yesterday he wanted Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to join in forging a coalition against the West.

Zhirinovsky, looking lively despite a 15-hour bus ride across the desert from Jordan, also told reporters on arrival in the Iraqi capital that he would work for lifting the UN sanctions imposed on Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait.

"I take with me an appeal to Moslems and Arabs, seven pages. I would like to give this appeal to Mr. Saddam Hussein," Zhirinovsky said.

"The West would like the Moslem world (to be) against Russia, against Orthodox...So it is no good for Russia, for Orthodox countries and Moslem countries."

He told reporters the document called for Arabs and Moslems to join with Orthodox Christians in a coalition and said he was ready to sign if President Saddam agreed to do so. The appeal also called for friendship between Russia and the Moslem world.

Zhirinovsky, heading a 50-person delegation which traveled by bus because of a ban on flights to Baghdad, accused the West of fomenting strife and wars between Moslems and Orthodox Russians, notably in Chechnya.

But he lashed out at Turkey, a secular Moslem state, for what he called its "violation of human rights".

He accused Ankara of "everyday bombardment" of ethnic Kurds in southeastern Turkey, where the separatist Kurdistan Workers Party has been fighting the government since 1984, and he condemned the occupation of northern Cyprus by Turkish troops since 1974.

"It is more reason for the embargo (to be slapped) on Turkey," he said.

Zhirinovsky, on his second visit to Iraq since 1992, said he viewed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein "with high estimation" and was looking forward to meeting him.

Zhirinovsky reiterated his view that the UN sanctions imposed on Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait in 1990, and which have blocked sales of Iraq's economically vital petroleum, should be lifted immediately.

Asked what would he do if he were in President Boris Yeltsin's place, Zhirinovsky said:

"Eliminate the embargo. We have the right...to directly have commercial relations without this decision from the United Nations."

"We can help to eliminate the embargo...we can receive some help from Iraq to return our debt," he added.

Russia says Iraq owes it $9 billion and supports moves at the UN Security Council to ease or lift the ban on Iraqi oil exports but has ruled out unilateral lifting of the embargo.

US, China sign deal on trade at 11th hour

BEIJING (AP) – With the threat of a trade war looming, Chinese and US trade officials reached agreement yesterday on stopping Chinese piracy of American movies, music and other goods in talks that ran past a US deadline.

Failure to resolve the dispute would have meant punitive US tariffs on more than $1 billion in Chinese imports. China had promised to respond in kind.

As the 1 p.m. deadline passed, negotiators were working on the final wording of the agreement, a US official told reporters outside the trade ministry.

No details were immediately available, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The agreement appeared to forestall the threat of sanctions from both sides, averting a trade war between two of the world's largest economies.

It also could contribute to removing a perennial irritant in relations between the US and China: complaints from American businesses of losing more than $1 billion each year because of rampant theft of copyrights and trademarks.

There had been a sign of progress. The Xinhua News Agency reported that China ordered the shutdown of two southern factories producing pirated audiovisual materials.

One was Shenfei, a factory that American movie and music industry officials identified as one of the worst piracy offenders. Shenfei made illegal copies of the movie *Jurassic Park* and audio laser products, Xinhua said.

The US had been demanding, among other things, that China shut down 29 southern factories turning out an estimated 75 million pirated compact discs per year.

Along with enforcing existing regulations, the United States also wants China to enact more stringent laws on copyrights and other intellectual property.

Other countries also have complained about illicit copying of their products but haven't confronted China, for fear of jeopardizing trade with this huge, rapidly growing market.

US-Chinese trade last year totalled $45 billion. Most of that was Chinese exports to the United States, worth $37 billion.

Official media in China have been playing up reports of individual crackdowns on piracy in an attempt to show Chinese officials aren't ignoring the problem.

The *Commercial and Industrial Times* reported dozens of cases of piracy uncovered this year, including laser discs, software, medicine, fake Levi's clothing and counterfeit Yamaha and Panasonic electronics. The newspaper did not give details of how the pirates were punished.

The Xinhua Agency said China's "consistent stand" was to crack down on piracy. But Beijing has repeatedly complained that the United States expects too much too quickly, and that China must take a gradual approach.

On another key source of tension between Washington and Beijing, human rights, China remained defiant.

G7 pledges hi-tech benefits for all people

BRUSSELS (Reuter) – The world's top industrialized nations pledged yesterday to let new technologies, flourishing in a climate of spirited competition, bring the benefits of the coming information age to all.

Wrapping up a conference on ways to exploit a world of ever faster and smarter computers, Group of Seven (G7) ministers said they would encourage private investment to promote the so-called information society.

"It is a world where television, telephones and computers come together in a revolution of global communication. The ministers also agreed on 11 pilot projects in areas ranging from education to the environment as a way to show their commitment.

"Policies aimed at a rapid and successful transition to the information society must ensure the highest levels of participation and avoid the emergence of two classes of citizens," a statement from the G7 meeting said.

The conference of ministers from Germany, the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Italy and Japan was called to discuss ways to exploit the new technologies that promise to revolutionise the way people live.

The conference organisers hosted a glittering trade show of new technology, ranging from virtual reality visits to museums to long distance video links that allow rural school children to be taught by teachers hundreds of kilometres away.

Much of the discussion at the two-and-a-half day meeting was on freeing up restrictions that business leaders fear will hold back the full potental of the coming age.

Tajiks vote despite opposition boycotts

DUSHANBE (AP) – Ignoring an opposition boycott, Tajikistan's president insisted yesterday that the nation's first parliamentary elections since 1991 were "democratic and free."

President Emomali Rakhmonov, casting his ballot in the capital Dushanbe, said the vote shows reforms are continuing and cautioned journalists against judging his central Asian nation by Western democratic standards.

He said a high turnout, which already had reached 70 percent by late afternoon, would demonstrate the public's belief in the elections.

Opposition parties were boycotting the parliamentary and local elections in poverty-stricken Tajikistan, which is still recovering from the 1992-93 civil war.

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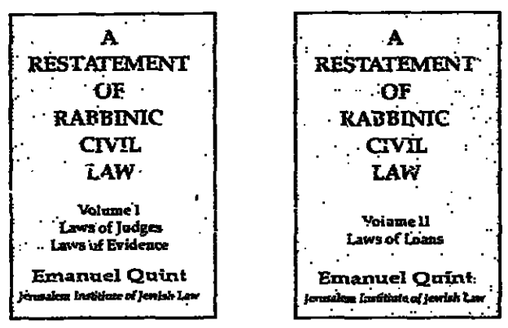
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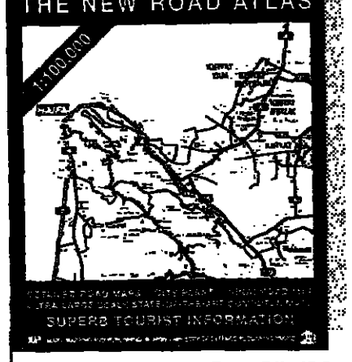
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'Hametz' raves don't leaven his pain

HELEN KAYE

"I cook," says Shmuel Hasfari, and laughs. "The plays and all the rest happen when I'm not cooking."

That laugh bubbles like butter in a skillet. It makes you think of hilltops and sunlight, not the apocalyptic plays he writes, works of restless, barely leashed anger.

His latest play, *Hametz*, received raves from most of the critics. *Sh'hur*, the movie his wife Hana Azoulay-Hasfari wrote, and which he directed, got an honorable mention at the Berlin Film Festival. You'd think that right now he'd be on cloud nine. But no.

The day after the *Hametz* reviews came out, he had a headache "because they're all good and that makes me wonder what I've done wrong. I don't function when I'm agreed with."

In *Hametz*, which he directed, as he does all his plays, "there's less anger there than in my others. At the end there's reconciliation, mercy, peace.

"The whole play is an exorcism, truly a process of *biur hametz*, with the hope that afterwards things may still be painful, but cleaner. It's like amputating a rotten limb. The process is painful but the purpose is healing."

Biur hametz is the casting out of leaven before Pessah, which is here a metaphor for impurities of the heart. Ten years in the making, the plot of *Hametz* was partially inspired by the so-called Zionist terrorist who was never caught.

On the eve of Pessah 1973, this unknown figure roamed the country from Haifa to Jerusalem and set fire to, or otherwise vandalized, monuments and museums commemorating Israel's and the Jewish People's past. The vandal even extinguished the eternal flame at Yad Vashem.

IN THE play the Zionist terrorist is a Holocaust survivor, a tortured schizophrenic, called Arik (Igal Naor), whose final act is suicide on the top of Masada.

Arik's farewell speech is a powerfully ironic juxtaposition to the monumental symbol of defiant heroism/sacrifice that the mountain represents.

"Children ... they'll take you to battlegrounds ... and concentration camps and you keep your eye on the little girl's *tush* in front of you, or squeeze a blackhead and don't listen. Because what's worse, children? That once there was such suffering or that it's enshrined forever in our hearts?"

What Arik suffered in the past bedevils his present and that of his sister Elisheva Malach (Miriam Zohar).

Her husband, Nehemia (Ilan Dar), is a recently retired Mossadnik, and it's in his house that the seder is scheduled to take place.

But what happens is chaos as this dysfunctional family disintegrates under the pressure of Arik's exploits and the manipulations of a mysterious black angel (Dov Navon). The chaos continues until the scorched final moments of the play.

"There's something very naive in my relationship to theater," says Hasfari, and his laugh wells briefly, "in that I think that theater can effect change, even if only a little. It can create some kind of awareness or recognition and *Hametz* does that."

Hasafari, 40, was born and grew up in Ramat Gan. He was expelled from his religious high school for suggesting, in an underground newspaper that he and friends put out, that morning prayers be abolished.

His was a gently religious home and his father, a secular high-school principal, didn't always wear his kippa.

Hasfari himself wore a kippa until five years ago but scoffs at the idea that he is anti-religious or irreligious.

"My son and I study Talmud together," he says, "because it's a source of wisdom and an X-ray of our ancestors."

He and Hana Azoulay-Hasfari have three children. Aryeh is eight and twins Yair and Avshalom are three.

Hasfari first saw Hana in the corridor of the drama department at Tel Aviv University and fell in love there and then. They live in Tel Aviv and have been married for 10 years.

At TAU in 1979, Hasfari was studying directing and "they told me I had to do a playwriting course. I wrote *Kiddush* on breaks between classes, on the bus, scene by scene as homework."

Kiddush, a three-character play inspired by a newspaper clipping about a couple that didn't speak for 20 years, became the first part of a trilogy in which *Hametz* is No. 2.

Kiddush is about a family in which the parents are Holocaust survivors. Misunderstandings between them and their Israeli-born son drive the family apart, create an irrevocable wedge of hatred.

At the end of his second year at TAU, Hasfari quit school to found The Simple Theater *(Hateatron Hapashut)* and produce *Kiddush*, which has since become a legend. The Cameri then put it on in 1985, the year Hasfari became in-house playwright, and the play ran for eight years straight, until the death of Edna Fliedel, who played the mother.

Hasfari's plays are about the tension between what should be or what could be and what is, and "the idea that here we're faced not only with real cannon but with ideological ones and we have to deal with both."

The anger in *Kiddush* is the anger that fuels all his work in one way or the other, that somehow we've betrayed what was wonderful, – and Zionism "is the greatest project in human history" – that we've not learned enough and properly from our past suffering to pilot us through our present.

All coalesced for Hasfari on one hot, summer morning in 1975,in an epiphany while he was on patrol in Jericho.

He went into a local store to buy sunflower seeds and "instead of looking into the store from the armored car I was in the store looking out and there, in the quiet square amid the slow-moving people were these two massive armored cars carrying helmeted soldiers with rifles in their hands.

"All of a sudden occupation stopped being just a word. It wasn't the [1973] Yom Kippur war that shook me and changed my politics. It was that day.

"We're conquerors and that's that. The essence of the seder is the passage from slavery to freedom, and now we have our boot on someone else's neck."

In 1985 Hasafari spent 35 days in jail for refusing to serve in Lebanon. Here was a radical switch from the young man who made an impassioned speech on behalf of Greater Israel when he was 18, the young man who walked to the bus for his army induction with Rabbi Meir Kahane.

Hasfari moves to that different drummer Thoreau talks about. He does what suits him at the time whether it's artistic directorship of the Acre Festival (1990-92) or at the Cameri Theater (1993/4), a stormy year which ended in his resignation.

Currently he's working as a writer/consultant with Italian director Franco Zeffirelli on a multimedia show on the building of King David's Jerusalem for the Jerusalem 3000 celebrations.

He's also working on *Mourning*, the final play of the trilogy. It will be a comedy, Hasfari thinks.

There is comedy in all his plays, searing, funny and always in the service of the central idea.

"What happens on the stage doesn't interest me," he says. "It's the audience's soul I'm after."

Real life: It's all Greek to him

FILM REVIEW

ADINA HOFFMAN

THE BROWNING VERSION

★★★½

Directed by Mike Figgis. Screenplay by Ronald Harwood, from the play by Terence Rattigan. 97 minutes. Hebrew title: *Girsat Browning*. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.

Andrew Crocker-Harris ..... Albert Finney
Laura Crocker-Harris Greta Scacchi
Frank Hunter ..... Matthew Modine
Tom Gilbert ..... Julian Sands

More often than not, remakes of fine old films don't work. Aside from the nostalgia factor (who wants their memories of a favorite black-and-white stamped out by garish screen color?), a *simple?* question of motivation arises: Why bother rehashing what was already so good? To outshine it? To revise it? To offer a dutiful tribute?

Watching Mike Figgis's updated rendition of Terence Rattigan's play *The Browning Version*, these skeptical musings are never far off. In 1951, Anthony Asquith directed the first movie adaptation of this measured classroom tragedy about a much-despised classics teacher whose marriage and career collapsed long ago.

Set at an exclusive English boys' school, Asquith's movie was bathed in a quiet gray that was more than a function of its two-tone film stock: as exquisitely played by Michael Redgrave, the cuckolded Andrew Crocker-Harris seemed condemned to live a life drained of all brighter shades.

Misunderstood by his wife and students, Crocker-Harris was a character of almost excruciating sadness – a failure, you could say, though such a harsh word jars in relation to this gentle man, whose soft speech and bird-like manner might have made him a hero in some kinder setting.

In ancient Greece perhaps? The title of the film refers to Robert Browning's translation of Aeschylus's *The Agamemnon*.

One of the most fascinating aspects of Rattigan's drama is this connection between Crocker-Harris's sorrow and the fate of the Trojan War hero who returned home from battle to be slain by his unfaithful wife, Clytemnestra.

Is this a plain parallel or a biting commentary on the teacher's most unheroic qualities and possible delusions of grandeur?

Rattigan never quite says. Crocker-Harris isn't murdered, but in the Asquith version, his selfish wife almost kills his soul.

The humanizing of this selfish wife isn't the only change in Mike Figgis's surprisingly successful remake. Sexy, vital and frustrated by her husband's withholding, this Laura (Greta Scacchi) seems wise to be angry. It keeps her alive.

Figgis and screenwriter Ronald Harwood certainly don't go so far as to fashion a feminist revision of the original. Laura's still no angel. She barely bothers to disguise her intentions when she bikes off for a mid-morning tryst with a cute young American science teacher (Matthew Modine).



Albert Finney rises to the thankless task of portraying the unpopular yet gentle teacher Andrew Crocker-Harris.

And there's no denying how mean she can look when she scrunches her face, slouches in her chair and casually mortifies her husband in front of a crowd of his colleagues.

At least the filmmakers have the sense to spread the pain of this marriage around. Aside from making the movie more palatable to modern viewers, this widening of sympathies removes a good deal of the one-man-show weight from Albert Finney's shoulders.

Throughout *The Browning Version* students keep cruelly imitating "The Crock," as they call him, parroting his pompous Latin epigrams and steely inexpression. A post-Redgrave Crocker-Harris could easily have resembled one of those boyish send-ups.

But Finney rises to the thankless task of following Redgrave. His Crocker-Harris is brusquer than his predecessor's, his ache a little sharper. In some ways, the injured rage he just barely holds back helps explain the teacher's enormous unpopularity even better than did Redgrave's performance. Watching the original, I was captivated by the actor's feathery presence, but could never really fathom why no one was nicer to such a harmless, thoughtful man.

The new film is generally more explicit, for better and for worse. In a powerful early scene that's been added to Figgis's version, Crocker-Harris reads a monologue from *The Agamemnon* aloud to his class.

The music mounts as he stands, oblivious to the boys, his voice quivering.

It takes a loud bell to remind him that his students – a more racially mixed bunch than in the original – are there, and they're staring at him blankly.

It's a crushing sequence, even more painful for the ironic resemblance it bears to the climax of an educational uplift movie like *Dead Poets' Society*.

Crocker-Harris's devotion to his books is undeniable; the movie simply asks if this is enough.

Women's fest rings up Cash for concert

HELEN KAYE

WOMEN have come a long way, baby, in the 100 years or so since the concertina that Sandy Cash plays was made in Victorian England. She plays the guitar, too, and the American-born folksinger will play both in her solo concert in English on March 2 at the Zionist Confederation House in Jerusalem.

"I sing contemporary folk songs," says the 32-year-old singer from her Jerusalem home. "They're mostly story songs about urban life, about the role of women in the world today. Some are ballads and some funny songs. Yes, I guess you could say some have feminist themes."

Cash is appearing as part of the third annual *A Celebration of Women in the Arts*, which runs from tomorrow through March 8.

It is presented by the Jerusalem-based Tof Miriam, a voluntary, nonprofit, mostly English-speaking organization dedicated to the encouragement and support of women's creativity in Israel.

Born and raised in Detroit, Cash studied to become a rabbi and supported herself as a cantor. She is Orthodox today and came here, she says, "to fulfill myself as an ordinary Jew. I became a Zionist after I got here."

During her first years in the country, she sang with the New Israeli Opera chorus, appeared in the chorus of both *Les Miserables* and *Evita*, and studied theater at Tel Aviv University. Today, she makes her living writing educational software.

Other highlights of the festival, most of which are in English, are the opening night at the Jerusalem Cinematheque, which features more folk songs and movies, and a performance by singer Shuli Natan on March 7.

Also making appearances are jazz pianist Liz Magnes and "Women of Valor," a program for women only with the Tofa'ah musical ensemble.

Oh yes. Men are very welcome to all the rest.

'Flute' works its magic on soprano Efrat Ben-Nun and fiance

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

SOPRANO Efrat Ben-Nun's next performance in this country – after her current series of concerts – will be at her own wedding.

This summer, the Berlin-based Ben-Nun will be coming home to marry tenor Jeffrey Francis, making the magic these two usually create onstage in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, happen in real life.

She'll be plenty busy until then. In a few weeks she records Brahms's *German Requiem* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with Michel Corboz in Lausanne, to be followed by a a tour of Australia and South America.

"People are starting to recognize me in Europe," says the 34-year-old native of Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael. "I'm singing a lot of concerts and it feels really great."

She has mixed feelings, however, about living in Berlin, where she was a member of the Staatsoper – whose musical director is Daniel Barenboim – for several years.

"Musically speaking, I'm having a wonderful time there. It is really a very interesting place to be in," she says.

But being an Israeli in Berlin still makes her uncomfortable. "I have no relatives who died in the Holocaust, but it's not easy for me to be there," she says.

After the wedding, she and her husband hope to move to Italy. "We're thinking about Bologna. It's a wonderful city. We have both had enough of Germany by now," she says.

SHE GOT the Berlin job almost by chance. "I was singing in Essen at the time and my agent called me and told me that in two days I have an audition with Barenboim," she recalls.

She was accepted immediately, and left Essen with few regrets. "It is a very small city with no Jews, not to mention Israelis. I have very happily forgotten that period," she says.

In Berlin she sang a wide variety of roles, from major ones like Pamina in *The Magic Flute* to more minor ones like the first flower girl in Wagner's *Parsifal*. This year she left the company and started free-lancing, though she still makes guest appearances at the Staatsoper.

"Being a member of the company is very limiting because you have very few opportunities to do other things," she explains.

Despite her recent successes, Ben-Nun has her reservations about the medium of opera.

"It can be great when it's going smoothly," she says. "But I have a big problem with directors ... Many times you don't agree with the direction and you have to find a way and go with it...."

"On many evenings I return back home and ask is it really worth it all. But I'm crazy about the music and for its sake I'm willing to put up with all the rest."

Which explains why Ben-Nun tries to sing as much concert repertoire as she can, in between opera productions. "In concerts there is a directness that I simply love," she says.

Ben-Nun, who has sung with the New Israeli Opera in Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio* and Menotti's *The Medium*, hopes to return regularly to the local stage.

"It's important to maintain contact with Israel and I hope to sing here at least once a year. But it has to be the right role or repertoire."

While opera was not part of Ben-Nun's childhood on the kibbutz, she started singing on the table in her living room at the age of three. Classical singing came only in 1990 when she was admitted to the Rubin Academy of Music as a flutist.

"I felt the flute wasn't really *it*. So I went to [famous soprano and teacher] Netanya Dovrat without having prepared an aria at all. I merely had a vague idea of what opera is all about."

Despite her success, Ben-Nun does not recommend such a career. "I have a lot of criticism about this way of life. It means being a part of a society that is bland yet full of glitter at the same time.... I'm not sure if I would have done the same again, although probably I would have, because the bottom line is that the satisfaction and enjoyment make you forget all the rest."

Ben-Nun joins the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra in its current series of performances of the Bach B minor Mass.

Concerts are tonight in Megiddo, Wednesday at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv and Thursday at the Sherover Theater in Jerusalem. The conductor is Karl-Friedrich Beringer.

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A killer returns to Gaza

AMONG the PLO's violations of the Oslo agreement there are some that are undoubtedly graver than the failure to extradite Palestinian killers of Jews to Israel. But nothing mocks the pact more than the royal welcome terrorist Yasser Abu Samahdaneh received in the Gaza Strip over the weekend.

Abu Samahdaneh is not just another wanted killer. He is implicated in the murder of 35 Arabs and at least one Israeli Jew, Yehoshua Weisbrod. His Arab victims were supposed to be "collaborators," but most were simply personal enemies or political rivals he arbitrarily executed. The most notorious of these executions was one he performed, by arrangement, before a journalist's camera. The picture made the rounds throughout the world. It was a perfect example of Palestinian justice and retribution. Ironically, the man he killed, Jamal Sagedeh, had nothing to do with the Israeli authorities.

The killing of Weisbrod, too, was a supreme example of savagery and cowardice. Weisbrod, a civilian, made a wrong turn, mistakenly entering a Palestinian refugee camp in his car. Leading a lynching party, Abu Samahdaneh had him stoned and shot to death. (A similar incident in Ramallah not long ago ended less tragically, when the Border Police rescued a soldier attacked under similar circumstances.)

Perhaps even more disturbing is that Abu Samahdaneh, known not only as a Fatah executioner but as a rapist, robber, extortionist and thief, became a folk hero in Gaza, an object of adulation for the children of the Strip. The cheering and excitement of those who welcomed him on Saturday, and the Palestinian Authority's approval of his return, seems to indicate that the Declaration of Principles and the Israeli withdrawal from the area has not changed much.

Abu Samahdaneh is not a member of Hamas or the Islamic Jihad, nor of the radical "rejectionist" groups in the PLO. During the intifada in Gaza, he served as the commander of the Fatah Hawks, Yasser Arafat's own troops. A decision to abide by the agreement and extradite him to Israel would not raise the ire of Arafat's opposition nor risk civil war. Arafat would be simply making it clear to his constituency that the days of bloodshed are over, that wanton murderers are no longer heroes, and that in this new era agreements must be honored.

But from the government's reaction to Abu Samahdaneh's return, one can only surmise that it does not expect an extradition. That Arafat will not make such a decision can almost be taken for granted, for the simple reason that the message Arafat wants to convey to his people is not one of peace.

Dumping on Beersheba

ENVIRONMENT Minister Yossi Sarid is one of the government's chief negotiators with the PLO, and a high-profile politician who makes no secret of his ambition to be prime minister. But he also considers himself a conscientious environmentalist for whom Israel's quality of life is paramount.

That is why his support for turning the Duda'im garbage dump near Beersheba into a giant landfill to serve the center and south of the country is as puzzling as it is inane.

Duda'im is only three kilometers west of Beersheba. The prevailing wind in the area is western. This means that virtually every day, this wind – now considered a pleasant cooling breeze which brings relief to this desert city practically every evening – would afflict the area with an intolerable odor. It requires no wild imagination to realize that this will cause a massive flight from the city, a steep fall in property values, and a screeching halt to growth.

Moreover, the Beersheba's main wells and underground aquifers are also west of the city. The poisonous materials in the huge quantities of garbage accumulated in the dump may pollute this water irreversibly.

Another hazard would be created by the hundreds of garbage trucks that will have to carry the refuse produced by the most heavily populated area in the country – the Dan region – to the Duda'im dump.

There is no disputing Sarid's contention that the Hiriya dump outside Tel Aviv must be shut down. It has been an environmental blight and an obstacle to the area's development for far too long. And by attracting a large number of birds it has become a danger to planes taking off and landing at Ben-Gurion Airport.

But to mindlessly shift this hazard from one part of the country to another is a solution which could be suggested only in folkloric tales by the wise men of Helm. In the Israeli context such a solution could be offered only by self-centered dwellers of the country's center, who perceive Beersheba as a little village somewhere in the distant desert.

That such a move is contemplated without a serious examination of the suitability of the site for a national dumping ground is a sad commentary on Sarid's sense of responsibility. A limited environmental impact survey, done some time ago, only examined the site as a local garbage dump, which is what it is today. It did not examine the implications of making it a national dumping site.

According to Professor Dov Skibin, an internationally recognized expert on climate and meteorology, the most suitable place for a national refuse disposal site is the area south of Rotem Plain, which lies east of the water divide. It is possible (and preferable) to transport the refuse from the center of the country to that site by train, rather than by truck.

But perhaps the saddest aspect of the Sarid suggestion is that it is so short sighted. Beersheba is the city of Israel's future. Now growing at an unprecedented pace under Mayor Yitzhak Rager, a dynamic and forward-looking mayor in the Teddy Kollek tradition, it is destined to be a major metropolis.

The city now boasts a population of 190,000. A master plan approved by the government aims at developing Beersheba as the country's fourth metropolitan area, a city of half a million by the year 2010. But the only direction the city can develop is to the west and northwest, which is precisely where the Duda'im site is located. The government, of which Sarid is a leading member, must realize that it can either locate the national landfill in Duda'im or develop Beersheba. It cannot have both.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TENNIS COVERAGE

Sir, – When I started reading the *Post* daily over 30 years ago, the sports page rightly devoted much of its space to the two main sports played in Israel, soccer and basketball.

With the advent of the tennis centers 20 years ago, two enthusiastic and gifted sports writers, Philip Gillon and Ori Lewis, assisted by the dedicated and tenacious Jack Leon, blazed a media trail, eclipsing the Hebrew press, who were slow to realize the impact of this comparatively new sport on the nation. With over 100,000 regular tennis players, from under 10,000 20 years ago, your reduced coverage of the sport is hard to understand.

For the first time since the introduction of international professional satellite circuits 10 years ago for men and women in this country (covered in the past by Jack during the four weeks of these events), the last circuit recently played was totally ignored by your sports page, until the final round of the masters event. Yours was the only major media outlet *not* to report Anna Smashnova's first-round win in Tokyo's $800,000 tournament which kept her in the top 50 and even improved her ranking to 43. Haifa's Shiree Burstein, now doing her army service, and her Fed cup team mate Hila Rosen's successes in Texas (they took a singles title in Mission and doubles in San Antonio) during February were also ignored.

Surely, our kids playing their hearts out in a gladiatorial sport in the world arena are of as much interest to your readers as ice-hockey players in Canada, baseball players in the US or cricketers in Pakistan?

FREDDIE KRIVINE, President,
Israel Tennis Association
Caesarea.

TOMB OF THE PATRIARCHS

Sir, – Towards the end of Jon Immanuel's article on the "Machpela Cave debacle" (February 17), he appears to be paraphrasing the reactions of one Fayez Kapisheh regarding the shooting and subsequent events. He writes: "First it [i.e. the Israeli government] closed the Ibrahimi Mosque to Moslems and Jews...."

Now, the Machpela Cave or Tomb of the Patriarchs was so named and universally recognized for perhaps 2,000 years before Islam existed. To refer to it as the Ibrahimi Mosque without quotation marks is like referring to Jerusalem as Aelia Capitolina. I see nothing objectionable in Moslems talking among themselves about the Ibrahimi Mosque, but this form has no place in an international English-language newspaper writing about the Tomb of the Patriarchs.

MORRIS GOLDMAN
Tel Aviv.

DEBATING SOCIETY

Sir, – Reading Allison Kaplan Sommer's article of February 17 on the Israeli debating society Siah Vesig, and the young contestants who went to Wales, I felt that an important fact had been omitted.

This exemplary organization was the brainchild of Ann Swersky, who founded it seven years ago and continues to accompany the young debaters abroad at events such as the one in Wales. People's achievements should be proudly included in the history and credit given where due. This is the hallmark of a secure and mature society.

J. COOPER-WEILL
Tel Aviv.

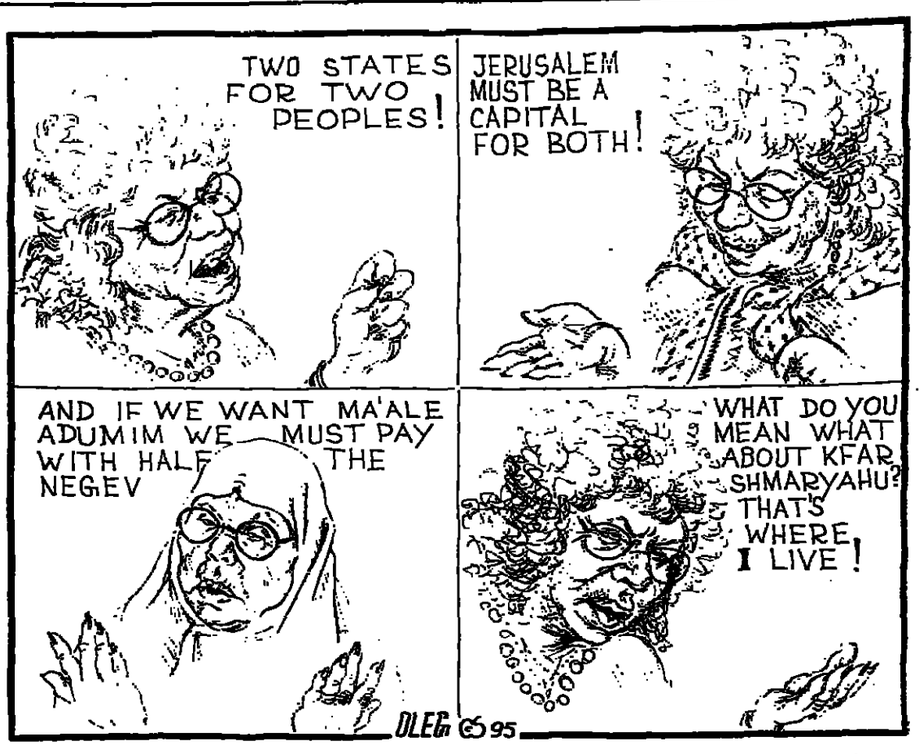
SUPERFLUOUS

Sir, – As a member of the Histadrut, I was astounded to read in the *Post* of February 13 about the suspected felonious activities in my organization's offices in Argentina, Belgium, Mexico and Singapore.

Even before launching a full-scale investigation into these alleged misdeeds, I demand that Histadrut chief Haim Ramon explain to me and other naive members why in the world the Histadrut maintains office in these places.

Is the Histadrut a government, with the need for consuls, ambassadors and diplomatic staff? What business has an Israeli labor union federation overseas?

AARON FRADELSON
Afula.



Rebbe's view of peace

JOSEPH GUTNICK

TODAY, Adar 27, marks exactly three years since the severe stroke that afflicted Rabbi Menahem Mendel Schneerson, the Lubavitcher rebbe. It partially incapacitated him, prevented him from speaking, and led to his passing last summer.

It is difficult – perhaps impossible – to describe the loss felt by the international Jewish community, particularly concerning a subject close to every Jew's heart: the security of Eretz Yisrael and the safety of its inhabitants.

A month and a half before the stroke, the rebbe spoke to then transport minister Moshe Katsav about the direction the peace process was taking. In the weeks that followed, in my capacity as the rebbe's emissary to former prime minister Shamir, I was involved in a series of communications with Shamir and other members of his cabinet regarding these issues.

What did the rebbe say? That the peace process had to be viewed in terms of the reaction of the Arab in the street. In the realm of the abstract, he said, there was room for many sophisticated rationales, but they would not shape the future. The determinant would be the perspective of the ordinary Arab.

"You speak Arabic," the rebbe told Katsav. "Ask the Arabs what they think of the peace process, and where it is leading." Concessions, the rebbe explained, would be interpreted as a sign of weakness. Instead of being accepted as overtures toward cooperation, they would invite more rigid demands and more violence.

In prophetic terms, the rebbe stated that the peace talks would lead to bloodshed, for the Arabs would understand that terror has sapped the Jews' strength and motivated them to yield. And, naturally, this would spur them to continue to use terror as a medium to obtain their objectives.

> The perspective of the ordinary Arab will determine the future

Autonomy in any form wasn't an answer, the rebbe said. It would be understood merely as the beginning of a process that – in the Arabs' conception – would ultimately lead to a Palestinian state with its capital in Jerusalem.

WHAT IS the alternative? It is unflinching resolution, expressed by a clear declaration – backed by deed – that Eretz Yisrael belongs to *Am Yisrael*.

The Torah regards Eretz Yisrael as the eternal heritage of the Jewish people and forbids giving portions of the land to Gentile nations. But today, the rebbe said, the commitment to retain Eretz Yisrael is not mandated by that spiritual imperative alone.

Instead, the primary motivation should be the concern for Jewish life and safety. This, the most fundamental consideration of Torah law, deserves to be the foremost concern of any government for its citizens.

When the Arabs see firm determination, they will respect it, the rebbe continued. Once they realize that the Jews do not accept the possibility of territorial compromise, it will cease to be a relevant aspect of any negotiations. And when they see that terror does not achieve its objectives – and is punished by the full force of the law – it will be abandoned as a modus operandi.

The rebbe frequently stated that similar concepts apply to the intricacies of international diplomacy. In the long run, he said, the bottom line of the American government's concern for the Middle East peace process was that a peace treaty be signed. And since the Americans saw the Arabs as resolute, they were applying pressure on Israel to make concessions. If, however, Israel also showed resolution, an equal amount of pressure would be applied on the Arabs.

Taking a candid look at the current situation in Eretz Yisrael, I find it frightening. There is no question that the course taken by the present government has endangered – and daily continues to endanger – the safety of every Jew living in our holy land.

The rebbe always endowed Jews with a sense of purpose and a clarity of insight, teaching them to determine priorities and act upon them.

Similarly, with regard to Eretz Yisrael, only resolute determination can lead to peace in an immediate sense, pointing us also in the direction of the promised ultimate peace when "Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they learn war any more."

The writer was appointed by the Lubavitcher rebbe as his personal emissary in matters pertaining to the integrity of the Holy Land.

Don't reward the unfaithful

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

SEEING what the primaries system is doing to the Labor Party, senior Likud members are having second thoughts about introducing the system into their own party.

They are especially disturbed by two things: that the system seems to allow those whose commitment to the party's basic ideology and philosophy is questionable to be elected to office; and that it makes maintaining party discipline virtually impossible, with representatives more concerned with their own personal prospects than those of their party.

Within Labor, MK Avigdor Kahalani exemplifies the first problem. Unlike other Labor Party hawks, such as newly-appointed Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet and Emanuel Zissman, chairman of the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee, Kahalani is a stranger to the party. He chose to join it because it seemed a sure way to get into the Knesset, and because he was encouraged to do so by the Labor leadership.

Labor Party leaders understood that Kahalani's Yemenite origins, celebrated military past and natural charm would work wonders among sections of the public that were sick and tired of the Likud but not exactly enthusiastic about Labor's platform. They were right.

Kahalani isn't the only Labor MK with reservations about Israel returning the Golan to the Syrians in return for a full and comprehensive peace. But he is the only one among them willing to defy the party's Knesset faction, which has laid down that its members cannot propose legislation intended to tie the government's hands in negotiations with the Syrians regarding the Golan's future.

The roots of former Ashkelon mayor MK Eli Dayan in the Labor Party aren't too deep either. Dayan was a member of the Democratic Movement for Change and Tami before joining the Labor Party, which he did with the encouragement of then party chairman Shimon Peres, after Tami disintegrated. In his basic stands and beliefs, Dayan is closer to Labor than Kahalani.

However, his recent decision to vote against the government over the long school day issue stemmed from a single factor: his concern about getting reelected in the next primaries.

IF DAYAN depended for reelection on a decision of the party's leaders and institutions, he would never have made such waves and broken party discipline. But he depends on the votes of a particular constituency which demands immediate improvement in its own lot, and not principles for implementation at some unknown future date.

While the Likud has every reason to be delighted with the problems the Labor Party has with its Kahalanis and Dayans, its conclusion – that the primaries system is bad *ab initio* – is wrong.

The primaries system has helped Labor get rid of a considerable amount of dead wood (including several former ministers), and enabled some of its more talented younger forces to get a foothold, something they could never have done under the old system.

But the system could do with some revamping. There is, for example, an urgent need for some new rules and regulations to enable the party leadership and institutions to deal more effectively with those who act against the party in order to further their own interests.

Representatives who choose to go against party decisions have to know that there is a price to pay. Some, like Histadrut Chairman MK Haim Ramon and his colleagues, decided to pay it. Most others are likely to hesitate.

One thing should certainly be avoided, and that is offering rewards to those who have acted against their party.

As a result of his conduct, Dayan was forced to resign his position as chairman of the Labor Party Knesset faction. But, instead of being left to stagnate as an insignificant backbencher, he has been promised the post of deputy minister of foreign affairs once Yossi Beilin is made a minister in June.

It was Peres who allegedly made the offer to stop Dayan, a member of his political camp, running against MK Dalia Itzik – another member of his camp – for the chairmanship of the Knesset Education, Culture and Sports Committee.

If the mighty have succumbed, how shall the weak emerge unscathed?

The writer is a political scientist.

The Jewish Agency vote

ERNEST STOCK

YOUR usually perspicacious political commentator Susan Hattis Rolef was somewhat off the mark when she wrote ("Vote and Veto," *The Jerusalem Post*, February 20) that "it is totally unacceptable that a group of people whose main claim to fame is their wealth and the fact that they... contribute some of it to the Jewish state should be able to hold a veto in a democratic process within that state...."

The point is precisely that the Jewish Agency is not part of the political process within the state.

It was established first (in 1929) to permit the Jewish people outside Mandatory Palestine who were not members of the Zionist Organization to take part in the development of the Jewish National Home, then retained into the era of the state so that non-Israeli Jews could continue to contribute to its upbuilding, and particularly to immigration. In 1971 its structure was adapted to give the contributors more of a role in the decision-making process.

> The right to 'advise and consent' is there to safeguard the Diaspora's interests

The state as such was not involved in that structure; nor could it be, since the contributions of the largest community (American Jewry) enjoyed US tax exemption only for as long as they were disbursed by a voluntary, i.e. non-governmental, body.

Israel's party-political process continued to be represented by the agency through the WZO, which was given a 50-percent stake in the structure created by the 1971 reconstitution. The chairman of the WZO is an Israeli, and he also serves as chairman of the Jewish Agency, which is one of the ways of ensuring the safeguarding of Israeli interests.

But the Diaspora has its own interests as well, and to safeguard them the agreement gives its representatives the right to "advise and consent" in the WZO's choice of the chairman, as well as department heads. (The language is that of the US constitution, which gives the Senate the same prerogative on certain presidential appointments.)

PART OF the Diaspora interest is that the Jewish Agency chairman be not only an effective executive officer, but that he also be endowed with enough charisma to stir up enthusiasm for the worldwide fundraising efforts.

Another is to keep the agency for becoming a dumping ground for Israeli politicians out of a job. (Menachem Begin, as prime minister, was no less angry than Yitzhak Rabin when the agency Board of Governors vetoed the appointment of Ariel Sharon as head of the Immigration Department.)

The fact that the Diaspora representatives are not democratically elected simply reflects the reality of Diaspora Jewish life. There was no such condition in the 1971 agreement, any more than the Israeli government makes democratic elections a precondition for relations with its sovereign partners.

It is no secret that many Diaspora leaders have not been happy with the WZO as their Israeli partner in the running of the agency. The WZO itself is an amalgam of Israelis and Diaspora Zionists, and the elections to its governing bodies are anything but democratic.

But its retention is one of many compromises that both sides have subscribed to, and that are inevitable, as long as part of the Jewish people live in a sovereign state and the other part in voluntary communities, and both parts want to work together to achieve certain goals.

The writer is author of Beyond Partnership: The Jewish Agency and the Diaspora 1959-71.

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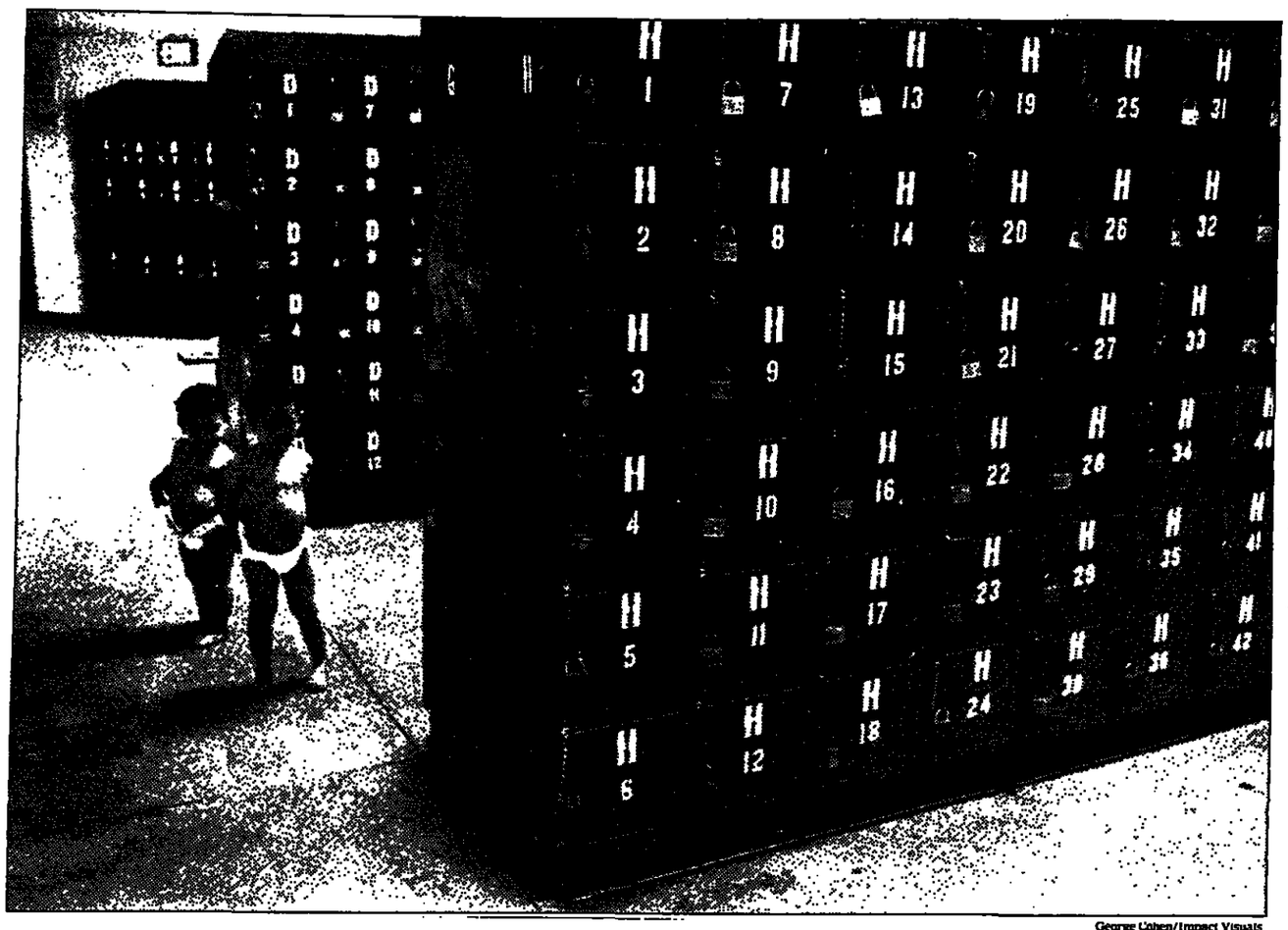
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Children's Portion



George Cohen/Impact Visuals

The history of the welfare system is marked by good intentions and unintended consequences. In New York City, homeless families were housed in a Bronx gymnasium in 1985 and children wandered around the locker rooms.

Displaced by the Welfare Wars

By CELIA W. DUGGER

BEHIND the national welfare debate is a deep but usually unspoken moral and political question: What will happen to children whose families are denied part or all of their cash benefits?

Over a half-century, social welfare has evolved into a system so vast and complex that for every innovation, regardless of motivation, the law of unintended consequences prevails. The real impact of House Speaker Newt Gingrich's approach may have less to do with philosophical disagreements over the merits of orphanages than with the reality of how much cash is available to care for young refugees from the welfare rolls.

Under the Republican agenda, families — typically, mothers and their children — would lose all cash benefits after the mothers reached a lifetime limit of five years on welfare. Then, many children might wind up in foster care, if only because their mothers could no longer feed, clothe and house them.

The people who work in the scruffy, overburdened offices of child welfare agencies, places that already teem with squalling children and bewildered parents, always knew that the national politicians indignantly scolding each other about orphanages were missing the point.

As the debate progresses, though, few of the participants seem to be asking a fundamental question about the future: If welfare time limits are adopted, what happens to the children of mothers who failed to make it in the marketplaces of work and marriage?

The Logic Is Economic

The Federal Government does not control where neglected and abused children are placed; states and counties that get custody of the children make those choices. And there is a relentless economic logic to foster care, the one program that has become the linchpin of local services for children. Caring for children in institutions costs at least two to three times more than placing them in foster care.

In New York City, for example, group care costs $47,000 a year for each child, compared with $16,000 for family foster care. Child welfare professionals believe that nurturing family foster homes are not only cheaper, but far better for most children. But in New York City, and in other areas where there are heavy concentrations of the very poor, the bulging foster care case loads are being managed on budgets that are always stretched too thin.



H.L. Delgado/Impact Visuals

Doris Delgado patted a boarder baby at the Bronx's Lincoln Medical Center in 1992.

> The ripple effect of changes in aid programs may deluge local facilities with a new wave of children in need.

To pare social programs and turn them over to the states, House Republicans would also limit total Federal funding for foster care, adoption and other child welfare services and combine it into a block grant, as House Republicans have already proposed doing with the national school lunch program, which feeds pregnant women and preschool children, and Aid to Families with Dependent Children, the basic welfare program.

The block grants, giving lump payments to the states and eliminating many Federal oversight and regulatory functions, would not automatically increase during recessions when more people need help.

The House Republican leadership, bowing to pressure from farm states, last week abandoned a proposal to replace food stamps with block grants. The states, said Representative Bill Emerson, the Missouri Democrat who is chairman of the Agriculture Committee's subcommittee on nutrition, have "a full plate" of new responsibilities.

Republicans in the House say a five-year cutoff would pressure many, if not most, of women on welfare to go to work, get married or have fewer illegitimate children. For some, if not many, it would undoubtedly be a prod.

Sacrifice or Salvation?

Representative Jim McCrery of Louisiana, a member of the subcommittee on human resources, acknowledges that he has, as he put it, no idea how many women would fail to become self-sufficient within five years. But he said that the price to those families is not excessive if it means ending welfare dependency.

"If a single woman with a couple of kids just can't find or keep a job, or get help from family or neighbors," Mr. McCrery said, "she will have an option to give her children up for adoption, place them in a group setting or foster care. Will some people have a hard time? Yes. Is that price worth it for the good of generations to come? Yes."

Moreover, the congressman said earlier this month, "the Democrats who have controlled these programs for 30 years have very little moral authority to accuse us of being heartless and cruel. It is the current programs that condemn millions of children in this country to lives of hopelessness and desperation."

While their House counterparts spin out proposals, Senate Republicans have not yet taken up welfare reform. The Clinton Administration has sharply criticized elements of the House proposals, but the President has not yet threatened a veto.

Currently about 420,000 children are in foster care programs. And about half the 10 million children receiving welfare today have been on the rolls for five years or longer. If even a small fraction of those children were removed

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Now Look Who's Taunting. Now Look Who's Suing.

By JANE GROSS

BERKELEY, Calif.

MEN don't dare leer or mock their female colleagues at the sensitivity training sessions that Stephen M. Paskoff conducts at workplaces around the country, where he preaches civility between the sexes and compliance with anti-discrimination laws.

But during these same seminars, some women, without compunction, spit stereotypic insults at the men. And one female manager, who hired Mr. Paskoff to quiet gender strife among her employees, displays on her office wall a snide cartoon that says, "*If you want the job done right,* get a woman to do it."

> Women freely skewer men with sexist insults.

These days women in positions of power, or at least a few of them, are engaging in sexist behavior, while men, constrained by codes of workplace conduct and competing for jobs that were once theirs alone, are frustrated, angry and looking for someone to take it out on.

Frustrated Men

"When men see women doing stuff that would get them in trouble, they get very, very mad," said Mr. Paskoff, a lawyer who has both prosecuted and defended sexual harassment cases and now runs a training firm in Atlanta. "The degree of anger about this, and the way the issue has been positioned as a political cause — so one group thinks it has special rights and the other group feels frustrated — is going to spill over."

It already has. The same laws that have crimped the conversations and habits that men once brought from the locker room to the workplace are now affecting female managers as well.

In Massachusetts Superior Court, eight men who were formerly employed as counselors at the Jenny Craig weight loss centers in the Boston area are charging the company with sex discrimination and sexual harassment. Jenny Craig International, where the chief executive and 90 percent of the 4,300 employees are women, denies the charges, saying that the environment of its nearly 600 centers across the country is "very balanced" and that the plaintiffs were fired because their performance was substandard.

But all of the men, who have been called the Jenny Craig Eight, are saying that they were fired, denied promotion or given unfavorable assignments because they were outsiders in a female-dominated corporate culture. Some of the men say they were asked to perform demeaning tasks not related to their jobs, like shoveling snow, emptying the trash or fixing the boss's car. A few of them say they were taunted about their "tight buns" and excluded from office chit-chat about pregnancy and menstrual periods. Moreover, they say that they were very uncomfortable wearing the smocks and neck scarves that are the company-issue uniform.

The men's complaints, and a ruling of probable cause in several of the cases by a state civil rights agency, has provoked a flood of inquiries from men with similar stories, said Jane C. Brayton, an official at the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination. She compared the flurry of calls to those prompted by Anita Hill's testimony against Clarence Thomas.

"It's the same stuff, the same stuff," Ms. Brayton said, in the weary tones of someone who's heard it all before. "It's just sometimes the 'she' turns into a 'he.' Nothing's changed. The majority keeps putting down the minority."

Powerful Women

The allegations by the male weight-loss counselors continue to provoke debate among social scientists and management experts about whether women act differently than men when they have power and whether they should be held to the same standards. The question has given rise to many discussions in the popular press and many a conversation, but, as yet, not very much solid scholarship.

> Are laws going to ban "girl talk" in the workplace?

"Is it a question of gender or a question of power?" said Gary N. Powell, a management professor at the University of Connecticut. "If we knew women were more tolerant, then we'd want to design remedial training for men in how to respect otherness more. But let's say women are no different, and that's what it looks like here. Then we need training for decision makers of any sort who might abuse their authority and treat people different from them in a biased manner."

Judy B. Rosener, a professor of

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Associated Press

Two of the eight men suing Jenny Craig, Inc. for discrimination.



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The World

Outside Hands Still Stir the Afghan Pot

By JOHN F. BURNS

KABUL, Afghanistan

IN the wasteland Afghanistan has become after 15 years of war, there are many memorials to the role played by foreigners. The rusting hulks of Soviet tanks serve as roadside shelters for the Muslim fighters who helped drive the Soviet forces out, and who now man the innumerable checkpoints of a civil war. Wrecked Soviet helicopters lie up every valley, some with their cannons still loaded.

Less obvious, but equally telling, are the traces of the United States, on whom the rival resistance groups known as mujahedeen, or soldiers of God, relied heavily for weapons and finance. Even before the last Soviet troops withdrew six years ago, the mujahedeen were at war with each other, dividing the country into a jigsaw of lawless fiefs. And after Kabul's Soviet-backed government collapsed three years ago, weapons that Washington had funneled in were used for a new round of bloodshed.

> A great geopolitical game is afoot, with replacement players.

Recently, hopes for an end to the carnage were raised by a new armed group known as the Taliban, which overran more than 40 per cent of the country in barely three months. The Taliban fighters came originally from Muslim religious schools, and they took with them on their offensive a powerful promise — to rid Afghanistan of the old Islamic resistance groups, many of which had long since turned to pillage, rape and murder, and institute genuine Islamic rule.

The Taliban are now encamped within sight of the rubble that the civil war has made of Kabul. Having unified much of the territory inhabited by Afghanistan's Pashtuns, the country's largest ethnic group and its traditional rulers, they have brought the war down to what could a final confrontation. Their remaining opponent is the Government of President Burhanuddin Rabbani, which is dominated by the ethnic Tajiks, who are the second largest population group and related to the inhabitants of neighboring Tajikistan, a former Soviet land likewise embroiled in civil war.

Is Peace at Hand?

United Nations mediators, who are trying to head off a battle for Kabul, are hoping that the Taliban will accept an accommodation with the Rabbani forces.

But even as Afghans begin to dream of peace, many worry that their hopes could founder on a continuing tug-of-war among outside powers. Many of the Taliban leaders came from Muslim schools established in Pakistan for the 3 million Afghan refugees who fled the war. Western diplomats in Pakistan say there is little doubt that Pakistan's military intelligence wing has switched its backing to the Taliban from the hard-line mujahedeen leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, one of the commanders routed by the Taliban.

Pakistan, with a large Pashtun population of its own in the North-West Frontier province that abuts Afghanistan, has been eager for a Pashtun-dominated government in Kabul. But Pakistan has not been alone in its efforts at manipulation. The ethnic Hazara minority, Shiite Muslims with small but effective military forces in western Kabul and across central Afghanistan, have been backed by Shiite-dominated Iran. Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum, a former Communist who leads Uzbeks in northern Afghanistan has benefited from close ties to the new state of Uzbekistan. And Saudi Arabia has close ties to a military group headed by Abdul Rabrasool Sayyaf, whose forces control strategic terrain northwest of Kabul.

Strikingly, the one foreign power that appears to have lost interest in Afghanistan is the one many Afghans would welcome back, the United States. After spending perhaps $10 billion supporting the mujahedeen the United States has canceled the last of its civilian aid programs for Afghanistan, apart from an $800,000 grant to a private agency currently distributing emergency winter supplies in Kabul.

The extent of the American pullback was suggested by a conversation last fall between a senior State Department official dealing with the region and the head of a major international relief agency with offices in Kabul. The relief agency's representative says his plea for a new commitment by the United States to help deal with the massive social problems engendered by the war was greeted with an exhausted rejoinder by the American. "She said, 'When I mention Afghanistan in Washington these days, people ask me: Where's that?' ", the relief executive recalled.

The Long View

Others in Kabul say that re-involvement by the United States could serve a larger interest than the moral one of helping to revive a country that has been devastated by a civil war propelled by American-supplied weapons. Although the Taliban have so far shown few of the anti-Western reflexes associated with Muslim purist movements, many Afghans fear that a Taliban government, or one heavily influenced by the force, might seek to shore up its power by stirring the passions of the country's poor and illiterate majority, much as Iran's ayatollahs did after taking power in Teheran.

At one of the few foreign embassies that remained open during last year's shelling, a Muslim diplomat said that the United States, by cutting all aid programs, was stripping pro-Western Afghans of a powerful argument for any government here to have friendly relations with Washington. "We hear a lot from the United States these days about the dangers of Muslim fundamentalism," the diplomat said. "But how does Washington think it can influence the course of events if it won't take a place at the table?"



Agence France-Presse

Outside powers continue to vie for influence in the Afghan civil war. A Kabul resident moves out of a dangerous part of the capital.

In Africa, West Can Pay Now, Or Later

By HOWARD W. FRENCH

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast

HAVING struggled across the Sahara, 250,000 starving Sudanese refugees assemble on the Moroccan coast, hoping to cross the Straits of Gibraltar to Europe. As an armada of camera crews film them, the refugee's leader launches this challenge to European Union coastal guards who would stop them: "All we ask of you is, watch us die."

The event is pure fiction, the final scene of a 1990 BBC television drama. But development experts say it neatly illustrates a stark choice looming for the industrialized world: Pitch in more energetically to bring Africa into the global economic fold, or wait and watch as the continent descends into a quickening spiral of disaster.

An Exploding Population

With its population due to double to about 1.2 billion in less than 30 years, and expected to reach 2 billion by 2050, an Africa in crisis could well become the desperate stage for a mass emigration the likes of which have never been seen.

Despite such warnings, however, the West seems to have grown only more indifferent to Africa's fortunes. Some American congressmen have recently likened aid to the continent to throwing money into a rathole; Britain has said it will cut its contributions to Africa through the European Union, and even France is grappling with ways to reduce obligations to its former possessions.

In response, frustrated development experts and new democratic leaders in Africa have argued that would be far cheaper to help the continent out of its problems now than to rescue it later.

To get a sense of scale, it helps to look at two examples where extremely rapid population growth rates — well over 3 percent a year — are expected by United Nations statisticians between now and the year 2000. They are Nigeria, which in the early 1990's had 116 million people and a gross national product per capita of only $350, and Kenya, which had 25 million people and produced just $340 per person.

Nevertheless, the experts on Africa recognize that in an era of austerity at home, arguments about investing abroad today to prevent crisis tomorrow have limited appeal. They now argue that traditional aid grants are not necessarily the answer. "The most effective thing that could be done for Africa right now doesn't involve new money, but systematic debt relief," said Thomas Callaghy of the University of Pennsylvania. "You could write off all of Africa's debts tomorrow, and it wouldn't affect international financial markets." But then, "When you look at what has just happened in Mexico you realize just how hard a thing this is to sell politically."

If Africa's approaching peril is not enough to motivate the West to act with greater generosity, many hope that old-fashioned appeals to profit might. Whether it was spices or gold or slaves or vast quantities of gems and minerals, the continent has always been a rich, if risky, El Dorado for the venturesome outsider.

Following Ghana's independence, Kwame Nkrumah, its first president and a pioneer of the continent's ultimately disastrous fling with socialism, defined the historical problem, noting the "paradox" that Africa's "earth is rich, yet the products that come from above and below the soil continue to enrich, not Africans predominantly, but groups and individuals who operate to Africa's impoverishment."

> Why do investors hesitate before Africa's new opportunities?

Now, throughout much of the continent, several years of dramatic efforts to remove barriers to trade and investment, trim bureaucracies and rejoin the global economy have mostly swept away the legacy of three decades of Mr. Nkrumah's brand of socialism. Ghana and Uganda are prominent examples, and investment in South Africa can at last be viewed as an investment in the continent as a whole.

Because of these changes, Africa's riches are again up for grabs. But so far, the international business community has largely disappointed the development experts. Mali, for example, can't find a partner to help finance a new power company, even though companies from the United States, Australia and Canada rush to explore for gold and diamonds and oil there. Their hope is for the kind of quick extraction of wealth that led to the continent's early disenchantment with capitalism.

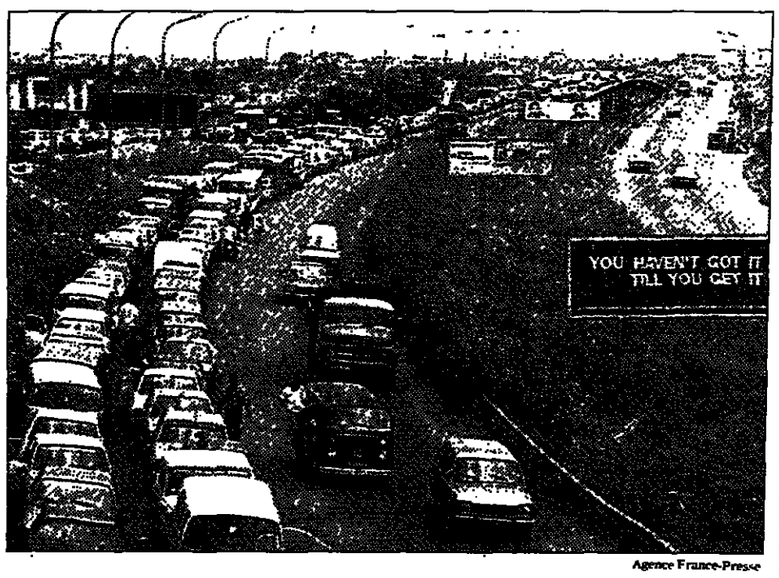
If Africa still requires a more cooperative form of economic involvement, development experts say, it is because the years under socialism did little to alleviate deep social problems that include an undereducated population whose needs grow faster than weak governments can possibly cope with, poor roads and communications, a lack of managerial expertise, and most of all a shortage of capital.

So Africa is in a bind: major foreign private investment in productive new industries is unlikely unless these problems are solved first, but the only sources of help to fix them is overseas.

"People cling to the myth that if only these countries would get their policies right, everything would be okay," said James Gustave Speth, the administrator of the United Nations Development Program. "There is no reason to believe that Africa can't make it, but right now this is a continent that is bleeding and without substantial outside help, there is no hope."

In addition to cutting debt burden, economists say the West should drop barriers to goods like textiles that are often entry-level transformation industries for developing countries. In this, they say, there could be a payoff for the West as well.

"Aid to Africa is not welfare," J. Brian Atwood, the administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, wrote recently in The International Herald Tribune. "Africa is today what Latin American and Asian markets were a generation ago. It is the last great developing market." But what many see as a sensible management of long-term interests collides with political expediency. "Putting people on their feet is just good business sense" said Edward V. K. Jaycox, vice president of the World Bank. "But it is a question of old-fashioned industrial structures in the north, where a lot of people are engaged in activities that they are loath to give up." By that he meant something very much like what Mr. Nkrumah used to say: If the West really wants to see an Africa healthy for investment, it should stop raiding the gold veins and diamond mines and open not just its wallets but its markets as well.



Agence France-Presse

In Nigeria, fuel is sometimes so scarce that drivers must wait in line for days.

Sometimes, a Hitch In the Ordinary Exchange of Spies

By CRAIG R. WHITNEY

PARIS

LIKE Claude Rains in "Casablanca," French officials were shocked, *shocked*, last week that a Government report charging the United States Embassy with spying on its oldest ally was splashed all over the newspapers.

The French, who invented diplomacy, know perfectly well that one of the things diplomats are supposed to do is to spy — strictly in accordance with the rules of protocol, of course — the same rules that give them immunity from being sent to jail for ignoring parking fines, skipping the rent and even for overstepping the fine line between diplomatic reporting and espionage.

The usual practice for violators is to give them a chance to quietly pack their bags and go home. But in this case, in the middle of a closely fought French presidential election campaign, somebody leaked the news that five Americans, including the C.I.A.'s departing station chief at the embassy and three other diplomats, had been caught, and the embassy asked to withdraw them.

It was probably no coincidence that the French counterespionage services report to Interior Minister Charles Pasqua, that Mr. Pasqua is the leading cabinet supporter of Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's candidacy for the presidency, and that Mr. Balladur's poll ratings have plummeted in the wake of a scandal about a telephone bugging operation orchestrated by Mr. Pasqua.

Mr. Pasqua modestly disclaimed credit for the leak and, bizarrely, tried to pin it on Ambassador Pamela Harriman, who said the charge was "neither true nor credible."

Open warfare, the extension of diplomacy by other means, has not broken out, if only because diplomatic rules have never prohibited hiding spies under diplomatic cover.

That is standard practice, and there are even terms of art for it. The former American station chief was what is known in the trade as a legal resident, meaning that he wasn't pretending to be a businessman or a journalist but was working in the embassy as a diplomat.

In the case of a NATO ally like France, he would have been discreetly introduced to the appropriate French officials so that they would know him by function and first name.

It was not that spies were masquerading as diplomats that had the French upset — it was, they charged, that the spies had been paying cash bribes, in 500-franc notes, to high officials in Paris to get information.

Daily Business

Only a few of the 130 diplomats in the U.S. Embassy in Paris work for the C.I.A. The rest do mainly two things: reporting things of interest back to Washington and representing American interests in France. Diplomats do these things endlessly — at cocktails, at dinner parties and at vast receptions on their national holidays, when some occasionally wear formal striped pants.

Mrs. Harriman has been very active and successful on the social scene here, winning a lot of good will for herself and for the United States. That was what she thought she would be doing Jan. 26, when she was summoned by Mr. Pasqua. Instead, he laid the spying charges on her.

A Quiet Life

That talk was in confidence.

Confidentiality is the basic rule of diplomacy, a delicate art that rarely withstands the light of publicity. Ambassadors go to glittering dinners, but beneath them, legions toil anonymously — the political section cultivating the parties and leaders who might win in the next elections, the culture section arranging artistic exchanges and so on. Some diplomats just stamp visas or help stranded Americans.

But diplomacy is increasingly about economics these days, and the Clinton Administration encourages embassies to push American trade and commercial interests. Embassy economic sections try to land contracts for American companies. Commercial sections have become clearinghouses for foreigners looking to invest money in the United States and for American businesses trying to make deals in Europe.

What the accused spies in the Paris embassy were looking for, according to the newspaper Le Monde, was information on the French negotiating position in the crucial end game of the global trade talks in 1993, and on its plans to protect the French entertainment industry from Hollywood.

It was a sign of the times, and of the new diplomacy.



Associated Press

Ambassador Pamela Harriman, at work.

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inary
of Spies

A Quiet Life

The World

The Right Hon. Twerp Debates the Windbag

By SARAH LYALL

LONDON

ONE of the delightful things about the British Parliament (besides the sight of grown-ups hissing and stamping their feet) is that its members can always be counted on to heap interesting abuse on each other. In a fine example from the 1980's, for instance, Denis Healey declared that to be criticized by Geoffrey Howe, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, was like being "savaged by a dead sheep."

But even in Parliament, there's a difference between slurs that are acceptable and slurs that aren't. Two weeks ago, Prime Minister John Major called the opposition leader, Tony Blair, a "dimwit," someone else suggested "nitwit," and the Transport Minister, Steven Norris, referred to people who take public transportation as "dreadful human beings." (He later said he didn't mean it and, as penance, traveled through London on a bus.)

Now, Children . . .

While the minister's comment was apparently allowable, having been a general remark uttered in committee, Mr. Major's direct attack was too much for the House of Commons's order-loving Speaker, Betty Boothroyd. "There are some honorable and right honorable members who seem to think it is smart or clever to manipulate the English language in making references to other members across the floor of this house," she rose to declare, as if she were chastising schoolchildren for throwing spaghetti in the cafeteria. Continuing, she urged members to "make use of the richness of the English language to select elegant phrases that express their meaning without causing offence to others."

Elegant? Was it elegant in 1986 when Willie Hamilton told Nicholas Winterton to "shut up, you old windbag?" Of course not. As long as there has been a legislature, there have been extravagantly rude legislators. More than 100 years ago, Speakers were regularly objecting to such expressions as "guttersnipe," "seditious blasphemer," "pantaloon," "pharisees and hypocrites," and "Pecksniffian cant."

Such language is as much part of Britain's political tradition as the high-concept Gothic building that houses Parliament's sneering, disorderly members. Part of it has to do with the floor plan. While the chambers of the U.S. Congress are fashioned as semi-circles, with legislators at desks facing a podium at the front, Members of Parliament sit crammed together on benches, glaring at their enemies across the floor in a layout designed to be adversarial. And while members of an ever larger and more diverse Congress gave up an early affinity for ad hominem legislative attacks, the British have always prided themselves on sharp wit and quick repartee as an expression of national character. They learn debate in school and at Oxford and Cambridge, whose debating unions have spawned whole generations of irascibly close-knit legislators.

Now that debates are televised (on C-Span, too, for Americans) members of Parliament are playing to a much wider audience than each other. Oddly enough, some feel, this might actually act as a bad-behavior deterrent.

"In the age of sound bites, M.P.'s are more concise in their banter," said Greg Knight, a conservative Member of Parliament who has compiled two volumes of political insults. "A lot of us realize that the televison set takes us into the homes of the electorate, and the electorate doesn't like to see M.P.'s ranting and raving in their front room."

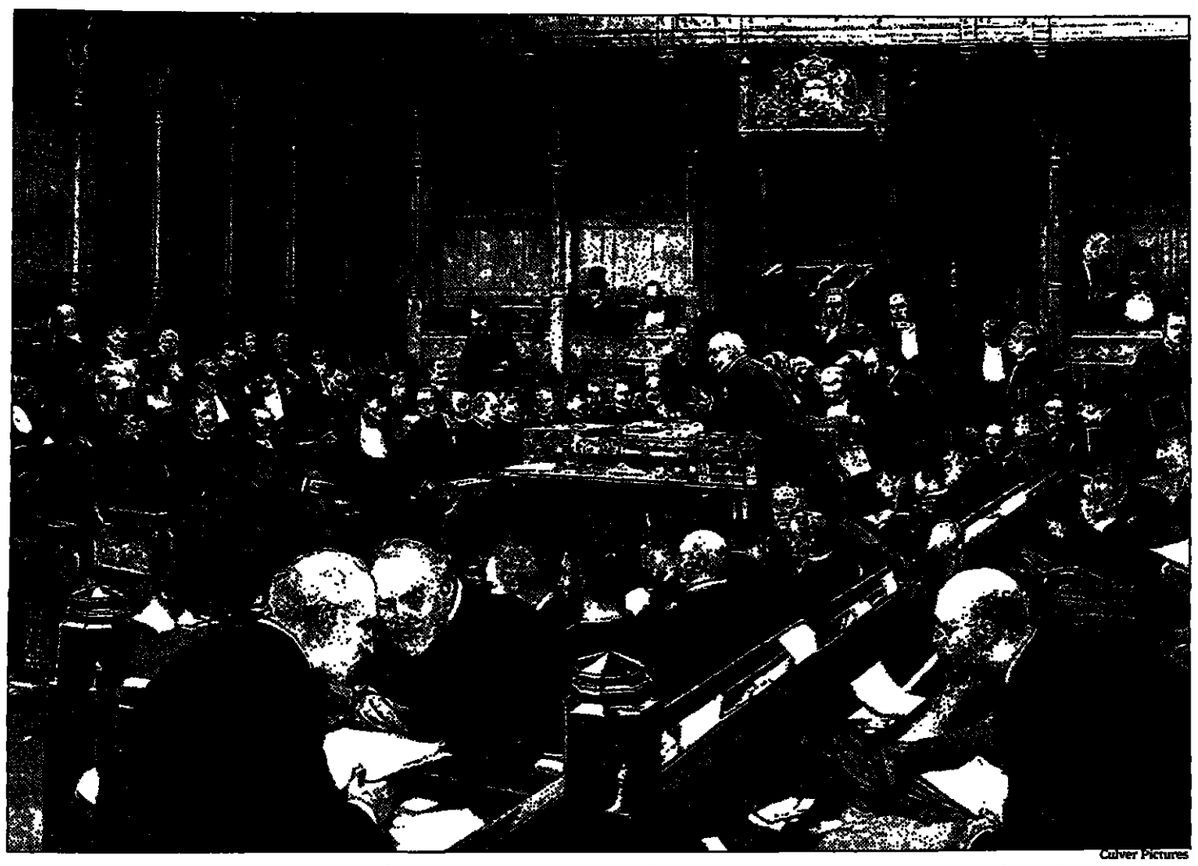
Determining what sorts of rants are acceptable is usually left to the discretion of the Speaker, though some general rules apply. Legislators cannot accuse each other of insanity or criminality. Nor can they call other individual members liars or hypocrites. And they can't accuse anyone of being drunk, even if he is.

Phil Mason, an author who keeps a running list of mean Parliamentary remarks, said that the slurs of today — like "old Etonian twerp," "hamster" and "Mr. Oil Slick" — sometimes seem sadly inelegant. "They used to be fairly inventive about the insults, but nowadays there's an awful lot of just seeing how much they can get away with," he said. "You get a great number of exchanges with people negotiating with the Speaker over what is permissible."

No Lies Allowed

Indeed, the Speaker sometimes enjoys playing along, like an umpire determining just how far a baseball player can go before he's out of there. In 1966, a member reprimanded for declaring that an opponent's speech was "deliberate fabrication" was allowed to substitute "gross terminological inexactitude." And in 1984, Dennis Skinner, a famously rude member of Parliament who had been told to withdraw "pompous sod," offered to retract "pompous." "It is not that word but the other that I want withdrawn," the Speaker said.

But Mr. Mason's personal favorite is when sharp-tongued Benjamin Disraeli, so the story goes, was ordered in the last century to withdraw his declaration that half the Cabinet were asses. "Mr. Speaker, I withdraw," was Disraeli's response. "Half the Cabinet are not asses."



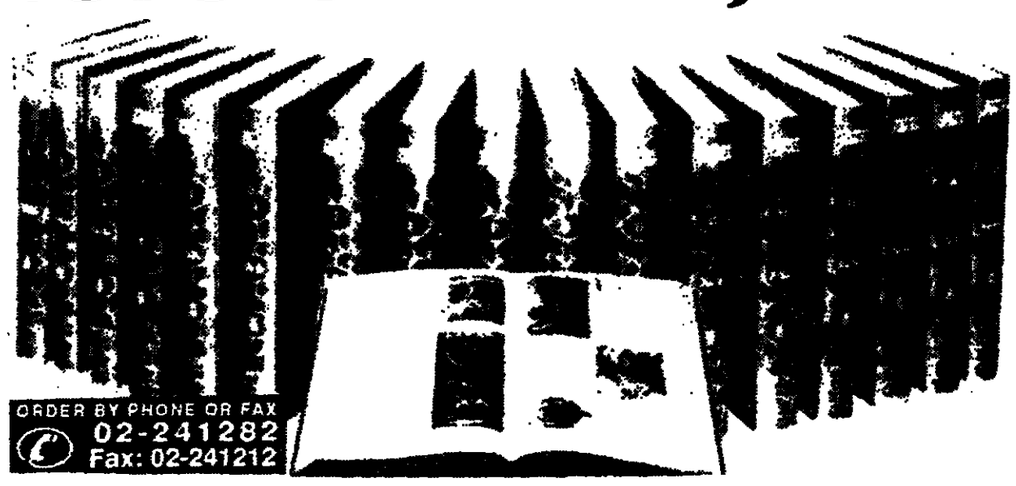
Culver Pictures

By 1892, Parliament had a rich history of insulting banter; modern critics say the repartee was more artful back then.

In the Mother of Parliaments, insults are an honored tradition. Has T.V. debased it?

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The Nation

Displaced in Welfare's Wars

Continued from page 1

from the rolls and wound up in state custody, the already stumbling foster care system could be overwhelmed.

Then what? If recent history is a guide, state and local child protection officials would place the children wherever beds could be found. Well-designed orphanages take years to develop, fund and build and are expensive to run. And each new solution to the plight of children in crisis has tended to fall short — or beget problems of its own.

In the 1960's, a heroin epidemic flooded shelters with children awaiting foster care. Babies and toddlers remained in in the overcrowded, barracks-like shelters a year or longer. "It was custodial care," said Lois Hines, a social worker at the cavernous Children's Center at Fifth Avenue and 104th Street in the 1960's. "They were being fed, kept dry. But they did not have that love and caring."

When crack cocaine hooked tens of thousands of poor mothers in the late 1980's, foster care was overwhelmed again. In Miami, crack-exposed, newborn "boarder babies" were stuck for months in hospitals. Cities like New York, Los Angeles and Chicago — all then under under Democratic administrations — turned to relatives who were paid to care for children.

Intentions aside, changing welfare has a history of unexpected results.

Kinship care was expanded to keep children with their extended families. But grandmothers and aunts get more to care for the children than the mothers received to support them under welfare, undermining efforts to reunify families. Similarly, programs to house the homeless during the 1980's got people off the streets, but produced a network of impersonal congregate shelters and nightmarish welfare hotels.

Less Money, Less Time

Child welfare agency executives fear that foster care's existing problems will only be exacerbated. Investigators would have less time to look into child abuse and neglect complaints. Caseworkers would be harder pressed to supervise visits between children and their parents or steer addicted mothers to drug treatment — steps that judges require before children can legally be returned home or freed for adoption.

The House Republican agenda would end the entitlement of poor, welfare-eligible children to federally-funded foster care and adoption services though the block grant. Overall spending limits also would be imposed in each of the next five years.

"The untold story of the welfare debate that nobody seems to have noticed is the dismantling of the child welfare system," said David Liederman, executive director of the Child Welfare League of America.

Ideas & Trends



John S. Dykes

Now, the Education Mayor

By MARIA NEWMAN

IN an unusually candid display of frustration, Schools Chancellor Ramon C. Cortines recently complained to Albany lawmakers that he was tired of having to "go across the river and genuflect" to get money from City Hall.

Mr. Cortines had come from the school system's headquarters in Brooklyn, just across the East River from City Hall. Seventeen months into the job as head of the nation's largest school system, he was chafing under the constant attempts by Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani to gain more control of the city's schools.

It is a goal that has been pursued by many New York City mayors, albeit none more aggressively than Mr. Giuliani, who has waged it, by all accounts, on a more personal level. The Mayor has harangued the Chancellor and even tried, unsuccessfully, to run him out of town when his contract was up for renewal. Then, this month, Mr. Giuliani asked the State Legislature to grant him sweeping powers over school spending.

The feuding comes at a time when voters in most districts around the nation are demanding more power at the local level and looking to ideas like charter schools and school-based management. In New York, for years an anomaly in the measure of control that City Hall has over school finances, the quarrel comes down to whether politicians or education officials are better equipped to make education policy.

In Albany, the Mayor accused the school system of misspending its $7.7 billion budget, and Mr. Cortines stridently told legislators that splitting responsibilities between the Mayor and school officials would create "a two-headed monster," with neither head fully accountable for the schools' successes or failures.

> City Hall has always had a big role in school finance. Giuliani wants a bigger one.

Questions about who governs New York City's schools have vexed many mayors. And education experts disagree on how much school matters ought to be insulated from local politics.

New York, along with a few other East Coast cities, stands apart in the way its school system is governed. Boston's elected school board was abolished by the Massachusetts Legislature four years ago and replaced by one appointed entirely by Mayor Raymond L. Flynn. In the midst of Washington's financial upheaval, Mayor Marion S. Barry is trying to persuade his City Council to do the same.

But they are exceptions.

"Most of the country's 15,000 school systems are both politically and financially independent from the mayor's office," said Michael Casserly, executive director of the Council of the Great City Schools, an association of the nation's urban school systems.

"Children need to be No. 1 somewhere," he said. "There is no way in the world that either the mayor or a city council can serve that function because they have so many other needs to juggle."

Throughout the country, most school districts — including those in seven of the ten largest cities — are governed by elected school boards, and in most the voters turn thumbs up or down on bond proposals.

In New York, the Mayor appoints two board members, and the five borough presidents each appoint one. The board hires a chancellor to oversee the 1,100-school system.

The school system does not raise its own revenue, either. More than 40 percent of its funds come from the city, and therein lies part of the problem.

Even as Mayor Giuliani is seeking more control over school finances, he is proposing to cut the city's contribution by almost 9 percent — and enrollment is expected to grow by 25,000 next fall.

Because the schools receive more money than any other single agency in the city, the mayor has always had more of a say in school matters than in most other communities. Also, the schools' state funds are funneled through the city, and the city is under no obligation now to pass on the entire allocation.

From Fiorello La Guardia to Edward I. Koch, New York mayors have tapped that money for other things.

"The highways in this city were built with capital money meant for the schools," said Noreen Connell, executive director of the Educational Priorities Panel, a watchdog group. She said education should not have to compete for city dollars with other services like snow removal.

But some education policy makers and experts say that New York, because of its size, cannot be governed like other school districts. Some even argue that the Mayor should have more control.

Delivering Services

Robert Berne, dean of New York University's Wagner School of Public Service, argues that with the school system under the city's chief executive, schools can work better with social service agencies to serve inner city children. "To isolate schools in an urban setting is not the way to go," he said.

But Mr. Berne said that the schools need major changes and that Mayor Giuliani, instead of making allies of those he needs — the unions, board members and even the chancellor — has been alienating them.

"The aggressive tactics he's used with other agencies are not tactics that are going to work with the school governance issues," Mr. Berne said.

State Assemblyman Steven Sanders, a Manhattan Democrat who is chairman of the Education Committee, predicted that Mr. Giuliani's proposal would not get far. "I would be willing to entertain a dialogue on changing the governance of New York City schools, but only if at the beginning, the Mayor pledges to spend education dollars on education," he said.

In Washington, Mayor Barry, like Mayor Giuliani, accuses the Board of Education of waste and inefficiency; Jay Silberman, a board member, called Mr. Barry's attempt to abolish it more of a "power grab."

"Marion Barry sees the rest of city government getting away from him," Mr. Silberman said, "and he's looking around and saying, 'Gee, if I don't have that, what can I put my little hands on?' And then he sees the school system."

"I guarantee you, if he takes over, we will see all the patronage and the control and the politics that we now see in the day to day business at City Hall," Mr. Silberman said.

In New York, Mr. Giuliani's advisers say the Mayor is not interested in wielding power over school matters. Instead, the Mayor wants to to create a system of school-based budgeting, said Herman Badillo, whom Mr. Giuliani named to investigate the Board of Education's finances. Under such a system, Mr. Badillo said, each of the 1,100 schools would be required to draw up their own budgets instead of relying on the byzantine budgeting system now in place, where no one seems to know how much is spent at each school.

"If you have a child going to that school, you have a right to know," Mr. Badillo said. "For Cortines to suggest that the Mayor wants to set school policy is outrageous. He says that only to confuse the issue."

Technology Monopolies Are Big, but Often Brittle

By EDMUND L. ANDREWS

WASHINGTON

REMEMBER the "I.B.M.-compatible" computer? Only 10 years ago, I.B.M.'s power was so great that it singlehandedly decreed the technical standards for most personal computers. But today, that phrase is quaintly out of date. The once-mighty Big Blue, plagued by billions of dollars in losses over the last several years, no longer sets the standards and is now merely one of many rivals in the market.

Today, however, a new company has transfixed the country, and the Federal Government, with its seemingly awesome power. Microsoft Corporation, started from scratch in 1975, arguably generates even more fear and loathing in some quarters of the industry than I.B.M. ever did. Its two core products — MS-DOS and Windows — provide the basic operating instructions for about 80 percent of all personal computers. It has expanded ferociously into almost every other corner of the software industry. Its stock-market value rivals that of General Motors, and its chairman, Bill Gates, has a net worth of more than $6 billion. Rivals accuse it of bullying tactics, arrogance and dirty tricks.

Now a Federal judge here has joined the fray. Judge Stanley Sporkin angrily rejected an antitrust consent agreement that Microsoft reached with the Justice Department. In a ruling earlier this month that suggested Microsoft is nothing less than a threat to the economic pillars of America, Judge Sporkin said the Justice Department's pact was too narrowly tailored to a few licensing practices and would do little to curb Microsoft's power.

They Might Be Giants, Briefly

Whatever its outcome, however, the antitrust case explains very little about the sources of Microsoft's power — and may have very little to do with its ability to hold onto it. As the woeful decline of I.B.M. demonstrates, dominance in the information age is far more fragile than it first appears. I.B.M. ruled the world of mainframe computing — until mainframes themselves were overtaken by networks of powerful new desktop computers, a development that plunged the company into a hellish decline.

And I.B.M. is hardly alone. Industries based on technology have a way of fueling the rise of quasi-monopolies, largely because companies have a powerful need for common technical standards. They also have a way of knocking them down when a vastly superior standard comes alone. In a world where just about everything is becoming interconnected, there is an intense need for common languages and protocols. The company that develops a key standard has a monopoly of tremendous value — while it lasts.

Microsoft's real power came from I.B.M., which selected MS-DOS as the operating system for all its personal computers and which prompted scores of other companies to follow suit. MS-DOS and Windows are not as elegant or easy as Apple Computer's rival operating system, even after 10 years of trying to catch up with it. But it was the closest thing anybody had to a standard. If Bill Gates hadn't come along, the industry probably would have anointed someone else.



Associated Press

Bill Gates golfing in Martha's Vineyard in 1994.

Hey, Victrolas Were Big Once, Too

But that kind of power can evaporate with astonishing speed. Recall the "Hayes-compatible" modem, once the absolute standard for devices that transmit computer data over telephone lines. Hayes Microcomputer is now in bankruptcy. And there was Visicalc, the country's first spreadsheet program and a product that claimed 90 percent of the market at one time. It is now long gone.

Very few people even remember something called CP / M, produced by a company called Digital Research. But in the late 1970's, CP / M was the "operating system" used on the overwhelming majority of all personal computers. Digital Research became enormously successful, so much so that its founder snubbed an opportunity to meet with I.B.M. about designing an operating system for its new computers. That led to an opportunity for Mr. Gates, and the rest is now history.

> In the world of computers, the bigger companies come, the harder they fall. Ususally, a judge doesn't have to push.

Toppling a standard is never easy, and it requires more than just coming up with a better product. I.B.M., having literally handed Microsoft the keys to the kingdom, is now fighting back with a rival operating system of its own. This system — OS / 2 Warp — has won praise from many critics and trade publications. But it has yet to make a dent in the market, because the entire industry is fixated on building computers and programs around MS-DOS.

But if a product is 10 times better than the standard, or 100 times better, the seemingly invincible standard can fall quite suddenly. That kind of advance is the norm in information technology.

The speed and capacity of computer chips have doubled every 18 months for several decades; the storage capacity of a plain vanilla computer has soared from about 10 million bytes of data in 1984 to more than 200 million bytes today. Today's computer programs are vastly more sophisticated, both more powerful and easier to use.

"People seem to think that Microsoft will last forever, but I don't think their longevity is assured," said Esther Dyson, editor of Release 1.0, a newsletter on the computer industry. "The only way to get rid of them is through a revolution. A revolution will occur, but it will occur in the marketplace and not because of government action."

'Content' Over Software

Ms. Dyson also argued that the basis of power is changing quickly, thanks in part to the soaring use of the Internet and commercial on-line services. The value of software to bridge the gap between computers will be crucial, but she predicted it will increasingly be overshadowed by the value of the "content" — the information, television programming or whatever — that will be transported over different networks.

Thus, even some of the software companies that dwell in Microsoft's shadow say they are confident about the future.

"The nature of this business is to be competitive," added Gordon Eubanks, president of the Symantec Corporation of Cupertino, Calif., which manufactures anti-virus and other utility programs that work with Windows.

"We of all people should be aggressive about taking action against Microsoft, because they compete with us on some products and we depend on them for early and detailed information," said Mr. Eubanks. "But by and large, this is an industry that is vibrant and healthy and is a great American success story."

Now Look Who's Taunting. And Who's Suing.

Continued from page 1

management at the University of California at Irvine, agreed. "To get ahead, you must be just like those at the top, and generally that's based on the straight, white, male model," she said.

"But a culture dominated by female talk, female ways of doing things," she added, "is just as wrong."

The men who are filing charges against Jenny Craig have said the kinds of things that Mr. Paskoff and other consultants on workplace discrimination hear often as they make their rounds.

Dreams and Girl Talk

Generally, the men protest four kinds of behavior, all of which may qualify as sexual harassment as defined by the Supreme Court. First, men complain about sexual remarks (for instance, one Jenny Craig plaintiff said that his female supervisor told him she dreamed of him naked). Second, they say they have been negatively stereotyped (one plaintiff says he was told that he was "sensitive for a guy"). Third, they claim that they have been assigned tasks because of their gender rather than because of their job description. And fourth, they protest being bombarded with "girl talk."

But not everyone thinks all these things are so dire. Some experts argue that sexual remarks are less malevolent when directed at men than at women. According to Freada Klein of Klein Associates, who has been a consultant in this field since 1976, men are more likely to feel flattered than threatened by such comments, whereas women tend to worry that sexual taunts will escalate and lead to sexual assault. And even though "girl talk," may be annoying, embarrassing or exclusionary to men, many experts say that it is rarely a major career impediment. "Each of us ought to have spaces in our lives to pick and chose our friends and talk about what we want," Ms. Klein said. "The real measure is can you walk away and not be ostracized or lose out on critical work-related information?"

Experts agree, however, that derogatory stereotypes — whether in comments tossed around the water cooler or in cartoons tacked on the wall — do signal a hostile working environment. "This raises the question of systematic bias," Ms. Klein said, Any man who is applying for a job or seeking promotion, she added, will assume from reading these signals that "these people couldn't possibly be fair."

As for reverse sexual harassment, which has gotten a lot of attention since the publication of Michael Crichton's book, "Disclosure," and the subsequent movie, this phenomenon is pretty rare, although complaints by men have increased from 8 to 10 percent of the total caseload between 1990 and 1994, according to the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. And according to a survey taken by Ms. Klein's Boston-based firm 5 percent of the men who work at Fortune 500 companies have experienced sexual harrassment.

> Men are more likely to feel flattered, not threatened, by sexual taunts, whereas women fear the taunts will lead to assault.

Predictably, women are more likely to mistreat male colleagues when women run the show and are in the majority. Nursing staffs and organizations with expressly feminist goals can be particularly rough on men.

A visit to Mills College in Oakland, offered a glimpse of what men in such environments may face.

Women predominate in both the Mills administration and the faculty, and they consider it their mission to serve as mentors to the all-female student body. R. Wood Massi, the assistant to the provost of Mills and the only man in that office, wonders if "there's a glass ceiling for me here." And he says he rarely gets invited when his women colleagues "go out to eat together, for margaritas, whatever."

Romeo Garcia, the special assistant to the president of Mills, complained that "every time the water cooler needs a new bottle on top, I'm asked to do it," even now that the jug size has been changed and any of the women is capable of lifting it. And David Keeports, a physics professor at Mills, noted that the rancorous debate five years ago about whether the college should become co-educational hardened the ideology at Mills, making it more difficult for men to express their opinions.

Shifting Scales

Laura E. Nathan, a sociology professor at Mills and a fierce proponent of single-sex education, is uneasy about the way the scales have shifted. Women's insults against men go unremarked upon; women's accusations are too readily believed. And male opinions are too rarely heard, despite the treasured tradition of open discourse at the academy.

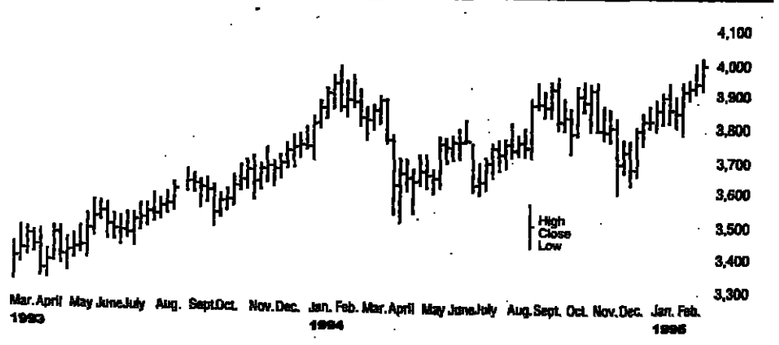
"It clearly doesn't make sense," Ms. Nathan said. "To some extent we're making the same mistakes they did. I can understand why. With a little leeway and a little power, it feels pretty good. But it's a vicious cycle. The bottom line is we all have to start behaving like human beings."

هكذا من الأصل

The Economy

The Stock Markets Last Week

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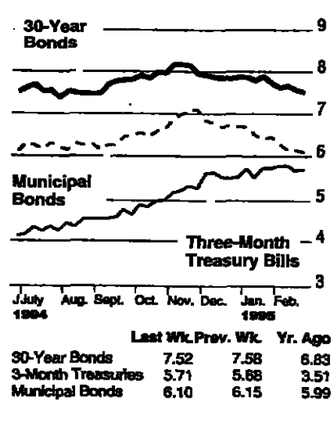
MARKET DIARY

	NYSE	NASDAQ	AMEX
Advanced	1,601	2,298	377
Declined	1,043	2,045	338
Unchanged	435	902	176
Issues Traded	3,079	5,245	891
New Highs	59	88	13
New Lows	47	30	10

MARKET INDEXES

	Close	Chg	%Chg	YTD %
D J Indust	4,011.74	+58.20	+ 1.47	+ 4.62
D J. Transp	1,594.99	+28.18	+ 1.80	+ 9.62
D J. Utils	194.77	+ 1.06	+ 0.55	+ 7.30
S&P. 500	488.26	+ 6.29	+ 1.31	+ 6.31
S &P. Indust	576.32	+ 6.32	+ 1.11	+ 5.26
NYSE Comp	264 86	+ 3.03	+ 1.16	+ 5.55
Nasdaq	791.08	+ 4.11	+ 0.52	+ 5.20
Amex	450.62	+ 3.02	+ 0.67	+ 3.91
Russell 2000	255.47	+ 0.76	+ 0.30	+ 2.04
Wilshire 5000	4,804.47	+49.87	+ 1.05	+ 5.81
Value Line	287.57	+ 1.69	+ 0.59	+ 3.62

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3-Month Treasuries	5.71	5.68	3.51
Municipal Bonds	6.10	6.15	5.99

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RJR	269106	5 5/8	...
Motorla s	230996	55 7/8	– 2
ShwNt	172663	25 1/8	+ 4 1/2
Compq s	157743	34 5/8	– 2
PhilMr	151574	60 3/4	+ 1/2
EMC s	136524	16 7/8	...
FordM s	130171	26 3/4	+ 1/2
HomeD	115994	46 3/8	– 2 1/4
Merck	113340	42 3/8	+ 1
GM	112480	42 1/2	+ 1 1/4
FltFin	110716	30 7/8	– 2 3/4
WestgE	109189	15 1/2	+ 7/8
GenEl s	105526	54 3/4	+ 1 1/8
MicrTch s	104662	59	+ 3 5/8

PERCENTAGE GAINERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
ShwNt wt	5 1/4	+ 1 3/8	35.5
ShwNt	25 1/8	+ 4 1/2	21.8
Chse wt	5	+ 3/4	17.7
GnHost	6 3/8	+ 7/8	15.9
Enersis	23 1/2	+ 3	14.6
SavnFd	13	+ 1 1/2	13.0
LincN pf	319	+ 36	12.7
SequaA	27 1/8	+ 3	12.4
USShoe	19 3/8	+ 2 1/8	12.3
NorestFd	10 5/8	+ 1 1/8	11.8
Sofamor	20 3/4	+ 2 1/8	11.4
RobHlf s	24 3/4	+ 2 1/2	11.2
RolTrL s	14	+ 1 3/8	10.9
Wack s	14 3/4	+ 1 3/8	10.3
Signet wi	18 7/8	+ 1 3/4	10.2

PERCENTAGE LOSERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
GrupTri	6 1/4	– 2 1/4	26 5
GrpDur n	5	– 1 3/4	25 9
BufetIn	6 1/2	– 2 1/8	24.6
GrpEmb n	6 1/4	– 1 5/8	20.6
ICNPh	14 3/8	– 3	17.3
GrpMa B	10 7/8	– 2 1/4	17.1
EmpMd n	10 5/8	– 2 1/8	16 7
MolBio	7 7/8	– 1 1/2	16.0
NwbNK s	33 3/4	– 6 3/8	15.9
Vitro	8 5/8	– 1 1/2	14 8
TrMMx	4 3/8	– 3/4	14 6
DeSot	4 3/8	– 3/4	14 6
BordC un	17 1/8	– 2 7/8	14.4
TrueNrth	16	– 2 1/2	13.5
MexEqt	10 1/8	– 1 1/2	12 9

Nasdaq

MOST ACTIVE

	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.
Intel	173394	78 1/2	– 5/16
Cisco s	168238	33 5/8	– 1/8
Novell	167702	20 1/4	+ 1/4
AppleC	131986	39	– 3 1/2
Micsft s	131500	61 1/4	+ 7/8
Methanx	119446	10 1/2	– 13/16
Sybase s	116277	42 3/8	– 2 5/8
Oracle s	90109	30 1/2	– 15 1/8
DellCpt	84761	43 5/8	– 2 1/8
MCI	73679	19 7/8	+ 3/8

PERCENTAGE GAINERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
TCF wt	5 3/4	+ 5 5/64	755.8
Multm	38 3/4	+ 9 1/2	32.5
UFinSC s	19 1/2	+ 4 5/8	31.1
BroGourCf	14 1/2	+ 3 3/8	30.3
Arcus	6 7/16	+ 1 7/16	28.8
Altai s	5 3/4	+ 1 1/4	27.8
TowerTch	5 1/2	+ 1 3/16	27.5
Nexstar	7 7/8	+ 1 5/8	26.0
InfSfA n	6 1/4	+ 1 1/4	25.0
FuelTch	5 3/4	+ 1 1/8	24.3

PERCENTAGE LOSERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
PorMcNt	2 1/8	– 8 1/4	79.5
Envrm wi	2 1/4	– 7 7/8	77 8
AmToy wtW	1 1/2	– 4 7/8	76.5
AmToy wt	1 1/2	– 4 9/16	75.3
MrJFsh	5 1/2	– 12 5/8	69.7
AllPro un	2 1/8	– 3 3/8	61.4
Panax un n	6 5/16	– 10 3/16	59 5
PlayCoT n	3	– 4 5/16	59 0
AmToy	3 5/8	– 4 7/8	57 4
PlayCoT n	5 3/4	– 7 5/8	57 0

American Stock Exchange

MOST ACTIVE

	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.
Vicom B	81958	45	– 2 1/4
Vicom rt	28330	1 13/16	+ 5/8
CheySft s	25727	16 1/8	+ 1
IntDigCm	23530	10 3/4	...
EchoBy	22582	9 1/8	...

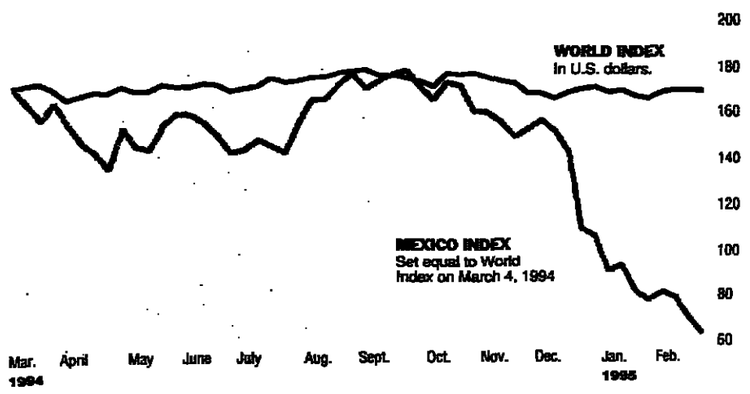
PERCENTAGE GAINERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
Ltfld s	6 3/4	+ 1 1/4	22.7
AmMze B	38	+ 6 3/4	21.6
AmMze A	38	+ 5 3/4	17.8
Semtch	6 5/8	+ 1	17.8
Servotr	5 1/8	+ 3/4	17.1

PERCENTAGE LOSERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
GrupSi	4 5/8	– 1 1/4	21.3
Lumex	12	– 2 1/8	15.0
PortSys	4 3/4	– 3/4	13 6
USIntc	6 25/64	– 63/64	13 4
Intrmgn s	11 5/8	– 1 3/4	13.1

World Stock Markets



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the FT Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and NatWest Securities Ltd. In conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries.

PERFORMANCE	IN U.S. DOLLARS						IN LOCAL CURRENCY			
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	YTD % Chg.	Exchange Rate to $	YTD % Chg.
Australia	163.81	2.9	1	–4.6	20	3.96	147.77	0.4	1.3563	–4.9
Austria	182.05	2.6	2	–0.4	16	1.16	139.38	–5.3	10.3685	5.2
Belgium	173.15	0.1	14	2.8	9	4.26	129.64	–1.9	30.36	4.8
Britain	194.72	0.0	15	–0.1	14	4.31	182.57	–1.1	0.6324	1.1
Canada	128.03	1.8	5	–1.1	17	2.70	129.31	–1.6	1.3948	0.6
Denmark	260.28	–0.1	16	3.4	8	1.49	206.76	–0.8	5.8406	4.2
Finland	185.87	–0.6	17	–0.0	13	0.95	177.62	–4.0	4.5536	4.1
France	163.25	–0.8	18	–0.2	15	3.26	132.57	–3.2	5.177	3.1
Germany	149.88	0.7	8	4.6	3	1.82	114.92	–0.5	1.4749	5.1
Hong Kong	334.09	2.4	3	2.4	10	3.86	331.60	2.4	7.731	0.1
Ireland	215.21	0.3	11	4.4	5	3.38	192.38	2.2	0.6344	2.1
Italy	73.47	–7.6	23	–2.4	19	1.72	90.31	–1.0	1645.75	–1.4
Japan	141.34	–1.8	21	–9.9	23	0.88	86.90	–12.2	97.27	2.6
Malaysia	483.36	–2.9	22	0.8	11	1.78	475.45	0.9	2.554	–0.0
Mexico	849.35	–9.8	24	–40.0	24	2.05	5297.85	–30.5	5.705	–13.7
Netherlands	225.76	0.2	12	4.1	6	3.49	170.29	–0.9	1.6527	5.0
New Zealand	73.56	0.4	10	4.4	4	4.77	61.77	5.7	1.5813	–1.2
Norway	210.77	–1.3	20	–1.1	18	2.05	186.14	–4.9	6.5066	4.0
Singapore	352.08	0.2	13	–5.6	21	1.82	235.39	–6.1	1.4508	0.5
South Africa	308.08	1.9	4	–8.5	22	2.59	260.93	–13.0	3.875	5.2
Spain	132.05	–1.3	19	0.1	12	4.38	129.75	–1.4	129.7	1.5
Sweden	244.68	0.6	9	5.9	2	1.69	264.15	3.9	7.2924	1.9
Switzerland	171.70	1.4	6	3.9	7	1.83	133.43	–0.4	1.2535	4.4
United States	199.82	1.2	7	6.4	1	2.83	199.82	6.4		
COMPOSITE INDEXES										
Europe	171.45	–0.3		1.5		3.17	148.96	–1.1		
Europe/Pacific	158.93	–0.9		–4.3		2.12	116.84	–6.4		
World	171.50	–0.0		–0.9		2.39	143.48	–2.2		

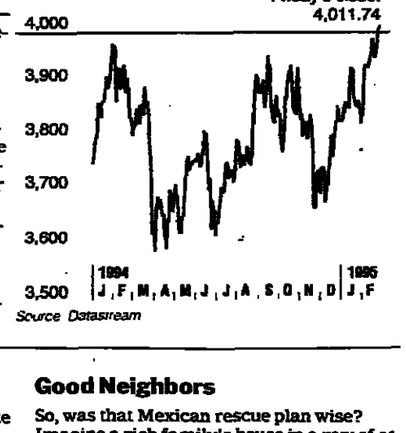
Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close.

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Greenspan Speaks, and Stocks Chalk Up Another Round Number

On Wednesday, Alan Greenspan spoke the magic words that people have waited a year to hear: the economy, he told Congress, "may finally be slowing." What he meant — or what the markets assumed he meant, because he wields such vast power that he's got to be vague — was that the Federal Reserve may be ready to stop tightening the screws with that drumbeat of interest-rate increases. And the next day, the stock market, which stalled out a year ago when those rate rises started, chalked up another milestone, with the Dow industrials closing over 4,000 for the first time ever — and, yes, inched to another record on Friday. Whoop-de-do, some traders said — no inflation, no recession, smooth sailing. But others cautioned that perhaps any celebration is premature. After all, the Dow is up just 0.8 percent in 13 months.

THE DOW HITS 4,000



Source Datastream

Budget, Budget, Budget

That 100 days — you know: the time it'll take Republicans to recreate the world — came to its halfway point last week, with the budget, as always, a hot topic. In the House, the budget-cutters looked everywhere for trims. One proposal would take a huge bite — $5.7 billion — out of public housing. Another was far more modest but powerful in its symbolism — a $171,000 cut for the Executive Office of the President. And the push to get a balanced budget through the Senate got two big allies in Tom Harkin and Joseph Biden, surprising Democratic defections.

PROPOSED HOUSE BUDGET CUTS

Assisted housing	$5.7 billion
Environmental Protection Agency	$1.4 billion
Transportation	$700 million
Programs under Commerce, Justice and State departments	$449 million
NASA	$13 million
Executive Office of the President	$171,000

Can New York Live With It?

The death penalty. Swift and simple. A balm to the irate citizenry. And to put cold dollar signs on it, pushing some button is surely far cheaper than housing a murderer for life.... Wrong, all wrong. Because, quite simply, lawyers earn a lot more than guards. And it's lawyers who fly into action after a death sentence — with appeals, appeals and more appeals. Not that a civilized society would have it otherwise; the legal process *must* be wrung dry. By one study, each execution in North Carolina cost $2.16 million more than life imprisonment. By another, reinstating New York's death penalty would cost, over five years, the same as hiring 250 police officers and building prisons for 6,000 inmates.



The New York Times

Are guillotines on the way?

Good Neighbors

So, was that Mexican rescue plan wise? Imagine a rich family's house in a row of attached houses. The family clearly has an interest in not having the house next door collapse — its own walls could be damaged. And the teen-ager next door is a good babysitter. Does the analogy hold? Perhaps. "Mexico was unique," said Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin. Mexico spends nearly as much on American goods as Japan does. But Alan Greenspan, calling Mexico the "first casualty of the new international financial system," stressed the hazards of a precedent — of, basically, sending all the neighbors the message that the rich folks will fix the roof.

Don't Count Her Out Yet



One of the more grisly investments imaginable is a bet on when someone will die. Yes, yes, that's what life insurance is all about. But that's abstract death. Thirty years ago, a French lawyer bet on a specific life, exchanging a $500-a-month annuity for the rights to a 90-year-old woman's apartment when she died. To date, he's paid $180,000, three times what the apartment's worth. Last week the woman, Jeanne Calment, celebrated her 120th birthday. On her birthdays, she always writes the lawyer, "Sorry I am still alive." So there.

Crossing the Wrong Line



With Republican budget-slashing in the air, President Clinton badly wanted to come up with some revenue ideas of his own, and his eye alit on this nation's borders. Why not charge, say, $3 per vehicle to cross them? That would throw $400 million a year into the coffers, to be used to fight illegal immigration. But that modest proposal loosed a flood of outrage in border states, and last week, as he was to leave to see Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Mr. Clinton scrapped the idea. He's still for allowing states to impose border fees, but there's not much chance of that. Next idea?

Russian Ads: Smoke-Free



Associated Press

Camel ads on a Moscow tram

With all the flak they get at home, American tobacco companies *love* foreign markets. Russia, where nearly 70 percent of adults smoke, is a gold mine. The companies are building plants all over Russia, and ads have appeared everywhere, with one public health expert calling the Marlboro Man the nation's "most popular man." But a less popular man named Boris Yeltsin decided last week that something should be done about skyrocketing cancer and heart disease rates. So, in an instant decree, he banned all tobacco and alcohol ads. The big question now is whether, in Russia, the ban will stick.

A Report Card for H.M.O.'s

HIGHEST PATIENT SATISFACTION

A National Committee for Quality Assurance survey of 26 health plans.

	SCORE*
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rochester	96.8%
FHP of Colorado	92.5
Metlife Healthcare Network (St. Louis)	92.5
U.S. Healthcare (Pennsylvania)	92.1
Health Partners (Minneapolis)	91.5

*Scores were determined by calculating the total number of responses of "good," "very good" or "excellent" that a plan received as a percentage of total responses.

The scary thing about today's broad health care changes is that all these H.M.O.'s are such unknown quantities. As people are swept into these plans, they fear uncertainty in such a crucial area. But last week came the most thorough report yet on the quality of managed-care plans, possibly giving the innocent citizenry something to go on. Overall, 89 percent of plan members were satisfied — and if that seems high, it should be noted that the plans volunteered for the survey. The bad ones are no doubt happy to stay in the shadows. Another caveat: geography matters. One survey found that people in New York City "don't like anything, while those in Rochester like everything." New Yorkers surely aren't such grumps, but a Rochester plan did rank first in satisfaction, while H.I.P. of New York came in last.

Whose Tax Refund?

It's that time of year. Christmas bills *still* aren't paid, heating bills are high, and it sure would be nice to get that tax refund quickly. Some people, in fact, want it so badly that they pay unmentionable interest rates to get the money in a day or so, with the I.R.S. sending the refund right to the lending bank. But the I.R.S. says the haste makes "refund anticipation" loans a hotbed of fraud, so it decided to send refunds to taxpayers instead, at the usual snail's pace. But a big lender, Beneficial National Bank, cried foul last week, saying that perhaps 30 percent of the time it would never see its money, and sought a court order to block the I.R.S.

World Markets/Paul Lewis

Emerging Markets Still Have Appeal

"POOR Mexico! So far from God and so close to the United States," said then-President Porfirio Diaz at the turn of the century when he sought sympathy for his country's predicament. Today he would have to admit that being America's neighbor has its advantages.

Now, when Mexico's economic luck runs out, Washington promptly declares a "systemic crisis" that threatens to send a recessionary shock wave throughout the developing world and mobilizes a $50 billion rescue package. The all-American $20 billion slice of that package was approved last week. And in an immediate sign of reviving confidence, private investors Wednesday only sold back to the Mexican Government $1.4 billion of short-term bonds, called tesebonos, although it offered to redeem $2 billion worth.

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But unanswered questions remain. The International Monetary Fund has agreed to find another $17.8 billion. But where is the $10 billion that the Europeans are supposed to provide through the Bank for International Settlements, to say nothing of $3 billion promised by American and other private banks? And what about those new long-term bonds that Finance Minister Guillermo Ortiz said "the finest minds in America" were designing to replace expiring tesobonos so Mexico need not redeem them for dollars?

The Mexican Government admits that it no longer expects 1 percent growth this year, not with interest rates at well above 40 percent on an annual basis.

Finance officials are putting the finishing touches on a revised stabilization plan that will take into account that their initial estimates of the crisis were far too optimistic. A group of American economists led by Jude Wanniski and backed by such Republican heavyweights as Senator Bob Dole, the majority leader, and Jack Kemp, the Housing Secretary in the Bush Administration, want Mexico to use its emergency aid to buy its own currency and revalue the peso back to 3.5 to the dollar.

All these concerns are keeping many international investors wary of Mexico's markets, though not of other emerging markets. Judging by what fund managers say, the emerging markets game is far from over despite the reverses in Mexico.

"It's a bit early to look at equities in Mexico, but we'll probably be putting more money into other emerging markets this year," said Robert Heisterberg, senior vice president at the Alliance Capital Management group. "The developing world has the best growth."

Most emerging markets weakened perceptibly in the immediate backwash of Mexico's botched devaluation on Dec. 20, which is why the United States and the International Monetary Fund declared a "systemic crisis," fearing massive capital flight from all such markets.

But today the performances of Asian and Latin American markets are diverging.

Since Dec. 19, the day before the Mexican peso was devalued, Baring Securities' global emerging markets index has fallen 22.6 percent in dollar terms. But its Asian index is only down 3.79 percent while its European index, which covers Portugal, Turkey and Greece, is down 0.14 percent.

Its Latin American index, however, has tumbled a substantial 37.94 percent over the same period. But even within Latin America, differences are emerging.

While the Mexican portion of Baring's Latin American index is down 49.3 percent, the fall for Brazil is 38.06 percent, for Argentina 30.05 percent and for Chile, 13.47 percent. The Mexican crisis no longer looks systemic.

Taking a long view, investors who entered emerging markets early are still well ahead. The International Finance Corporation's global emerging market index, which started life at 100 in December 1984, stands today at 489.40, down some 15 percent from its September 1994 high of 623.87.

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So it is not surprising to find many money managers still interested in emerging markets. Bill Wilbey, who runs Oppenheimer's Global Equity Fund, has 17 percent of his money in emerging markets. He has recently been moving back into Hong Kong and other Asian markets, though his exposure is well below the 40 percent he had there in 1993.

Justin Scott of the Putnam Group dislikes Latin America as a whole but says he will probably go back into Asia this year after reducing exposure there to 10 percent from 25 percent during 1994.

Michael Howell at Baring Securities keeps 20 percent of funds in emerging markets, mainly in Asia but also including Poland and Turkey.

Clark B. Winter, who runs the New York office of the London-based Global Asset Management fund group, says his GAM International Fund has always preferred Asia to Latin America and finds some shares there "very cheap."

For Morgan Stanley's Marianne Hay, however, the lesson of the Mexican crisis is that while emerging economies have the fastest growth and the highest profitability, their stock markets "now all offer much better value than they did a year ago." ■

Currency

	Last Week	Prior Week	Year Ago
Japanese Yen per Dollar	96.95	97.25	104.80
German Mark per Dollar	1.4615	1.4890	1.7101
Canadian Dollar per U.S. Dollar	1.3903	1.4040	1.3480
British Pound U.S. Dollar per British Pound	1.5885	1.5815	1.4887
Gold Republic National Bank	$376.25	$378.20	$378.50

Currency: Friday NY Close

The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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Russia, Iran and the Bomb

The United States, Russia and Iran are tangled in a nuclear thicket that threatens to impede disarming by Moscow while helping Teheran develop atomic weapons. That would qualify as a first-class failure in post-cold-war diplomacy and arms control. President Clinton, President Boris Yeltsin and members of Congress, all contributing to the problem, need to rethink their strategies.

Russia, desperate for hard currency and trying to keep its nuclear industry alive, wants to sell four nuclear reactors to Iran, which could use them to generate plutonium for bombs. The Clinton Administration is trying diplomatically to get Moscow to cancel the deal outright. Not satisfied with the Administration approach, some in Congress are eager to retaliate by cutting all aid to Russia, including help to dismantle its nuclear arsenal.

The most likely outcome of all this is that Iran will get the reactors, the United States and Russia will be estranged, the destruction of Moscow's nuclear arsenal will slow and efforts to curb the spread of nuclear arms will be set back.

A wiser course would be for Washington to try with Iran what it did with North Korea — coax it into curbing its nuclear program before it gets the new reactors. The first step is to ask Moscow to hold up, but not necessarily cancel, work on the reactors. Then Washington needs to open a limited dialogue with Teheran with the aim of putting firmer restraints on its nuclear program than required by the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Having signed that treaty and allowed international inspections, Iran has the right to obtain nuclear technology, including reactors, for peaceful purposes. Russia is not the only country willing to oblige; Germany and China are also interested.

Yet Iran's interests are not purely peaceful. In exchange for obtaining the reactors, Iran should agree not to construct reprocessing facilities that could extract bomb-making plutonium from the reactors' spent nuclear fuel, and accept more intrusive international monitoring of its nuclear sites. Making this strategy work will not be easy, but it has a better chance of success than shunning Iran, a policy sure to strengthen Teheran's militants, feed its paranoia and motivate it to build the bomb.

Denying aid to Russia is misguided. With American assistance, some 3,200 warheads have now been withdrawn from bases in Russia and the other republics, 750 missiles have been removed from launch silos and 600 missiles and bombers have been chopped up. The Russians have broken ground on a more secure storage installation for nuclear material. Russian research institutes, which have large amounts of weapons-usable material, are now cooperating with American nuclear labs to secure those stocks against theft or misuse.

Maintaining the current course will only benefit Iran and its hope of building nuclear arms. The United States and Russia can do better than that.

Congress Can Pitch a Perfect Game

It has been 73 years since Oliver Wendell Holmes, an "adviser" to the major league baseball players, told them they were lucky to be playing a kid's game for money, and that he and his fellow Supreme Court justices would be granting their employers an exemption from antitrust laws. The exemption was based on the premise, dubious enough in 1922, that baseball was not interstate commerce. Today, of course, almost no one believes that Major League Baseball still qualifies for such an exemption. No other sport, no other entertainment, indeed no other industry anywhere near the scale of baseball, is exempt from antitrust laws.

The baseball owners themselves have not believed it when it was in their interest. In 1966 the owners invoked the Taft-Hartley Act, which prohibited the payment of money by an employer to an employee's organization, to renege on a $150,000 payment to the fledgling Players Association. The union's executive director, Marvin Miller, was delighted because by citing the law the owners admitted to engaging in interstate commerce.

So why, then, is baseball the only sport with an antitrust exemption? For the simple reason that for nearly three-quarters of a century Congress has never gotten around to revoking the exemption.

There are a number of reasons Congress should support the Hatch-Moynihan bill to repeal baseball's antitrust exemption as it applies to labor, the most important being that it would strip owners of the power to impose conditions on the players. The bickering would go on, but the fans would not suffer because the players would end the strike.

Other benefits might result as well if Congress approved the even stronger Thurmond-Leahy bill, which calls for a total repeal of the exemption. Bud Selig, the acting commissioner of baseball, told Congress the bill would endanger the existence of the minor leagues. The more likely result is that Major League Baseball's absolute control over the minors would end.

With minor league baseball regaining popularity in recent years, the exemption's repeal could allow some of the better-financed teams to invade big-league markets where the population is large enough to support major and minor league teams.

Approval of the Thurmond-Leahy bill might also reshape the competitive environment in the major leagues themselves by making it easier for new big-league teams to operate in major markets like New York. Yankee Stadium would not make a bad home for a new franchise if George Steinbrenner is determined to move the Yankees out of New York City.

If Congress wants to play a constructive role in ending the baseball strike, and do a favor for the game in general, it should eliminate the exemption. That way, as the Cleveland Indians' Eddie Murray suggested this month, Congress can also remove itself from the conflict.

L'Arlésienne

Jeanne Calment, who lives in southern France, turned 120 last week. So great an age is a distinction in itself, but not as great as another granted Mme. Calment. She is the last person on earth who can claim to have seen Vincent van Gogh. The painter was, she says, "very ugly, ungracious, impolite and not well." When the man she was to marry one day wanted to introduce them to each other, van Gogh "glanced at me unpleasantly, as if to say 'not worth bothering with.' That was enough for me."

That was 106 years ago when van Gogh, like Mme. Calment, was living in Arles — infatuated with its light, colors and costumes and *les Arlésiennes*. "As for the women of Arles . . ." he wrote to his brother, "do you want to know my real opinion of them? They are, no question about it, really charming. . . . There are women like a Fragonard and like a Renoir. And some that can't be labeled with anything that's been done yet in painting."

Perhaps van Gogh did indeed find Mme. Calment "not worth bothering with." Or perhaps she, prickly as only an adolescent can be prickly, mistook shyness and oddity (a citizens' petition to the mayor had declared him "not fit to be at liberty") for contempt. Perhaps he even thought her a potential Fragonard or Renoir. We will never know.

But we do know that van Gogh was, yes, ugly. "Vincent was a miserable, pitiful man, small of stature. . . . lean," one of his doctors said. "He always wore a sort of overcoat, smeared all over with colors — he painted with his thumb and then wiped it on his coat — and an enormous straw hat without a hatband."

Mme. Calment was only a child then — 13, to be precise. Still, one can't help wishing she had overcome her hurt long enough to say "Bonjour." "How did he answer?" the world could have asked her. "Tell us about the sound of his voice."

New Yorkers Remember the Neediest

A family loses a father because of a crippling disease. A young mother's partner is killed, leaving her with a toddler and a baby. A new immigrant finds himself on welfare because he cannot find a job using his professional training. A man struggles to raise three daughters by himself and keep a job. New York is full of such stories, of people who put all their energy into surviving in the city and still find it is not enough.

For New Yorkers, it is easy to become hardened. This is a tough city, and everyone knows it. Sometimes the problems of its individual residents seem overwhelming and insoluble. But then, there are other stories.

There are the people working in an Upper East Side art gallery who saw the homeless taking shelter in the doorways and, between them, raised $550 to donate to The New York Times Neediest Cases Fund. There are schoolteachers, public servants and office workers who decided to contribute to the fund instead of exchanging holiday gifts. There is the group of young workers on Wall Street, employees of some of the country's biggest brokerage firms, who gave their time and energy to raise $126,000 to help their fellow New Yorkers. And there are children who sent a week's allowance to help other kids.

Every year, for 83 years, Times readers have counterbalanced some of the city's tragic stories with their generosity, helping the private charities supported by the Neediest Cases Fund to do what they know best: give a boost to troubled people who want to take charge of their lives.

As of the last count, the fund is running $270,000 short of the $4.59 million total raised last year. There is still time to contribute; this year's drive ends Tuesday. The New York Times deducts no overhead expenses from contributions to the Neediest Cases Fund. All money goes directly to the seven charities, which use the contributions to provide direct services and cash assistance to the poor. Checks should be payable to The New York Times Neediest Cases Fund and mailed to P.O. Box 5193, General Post Office, New York, N.Y. 10087.

Budget Amendment Will Handcuff Presidents

To the Editor:

Newt Gingrich's "Beyond the 100 Days" (Op-Ed, Feb. 22) celebrates halftime achievements of the Republican Contract With America. Mr. Gingrich is right to celebrate now. Who knows how much will be there for him to celebrate at the end of the 100 days, what with the Senate's Democrats slowly waking up and even moderate Republicans (of whom there are a few left) having second thoughts about some of the radical ideas coming sometimes from both sides of the House?

The Contract With America deserves, however, an attempt at dispassionate analysis. Unquestionably, the first 50 days produced some legislation that was badly needed, like bringing Congress under the same regulations that business has to adhere to. The line-item veto could have potentially good effects, if used by a responsible President — and it is the voters' job to put responsible Presidents in the White House.

The importance of these laws passed pales, however, compared with the potentially calamitous harm that other parts of the contract can inflict on current and future generations.

I would like to discuss only one, but arguably the most dangerous piece of legislation, the balanced budget amendment. Should it become part of the Constitution, it will tie the hands of political leaders in future recessions and prevent them from stimulating the economy, as Ronald Reagan did in the 1981-82 recession.

Then Mr. Reagan gave a new dimension to the definition of fiscal stimulus, by increasing the deficit to unprecedented heights. While his motive in doing so had probably more to do with the cold war than the recession, the beneficial effect on the economic situation was undeniable.

During the next recession in 1990-92, President Bush already had the stimulus of a large fiscal deficit at his disposal and was able, together with lowering of interest rates by the Federal Reserve, to more or less master the recession by the time President Clinton was inaugurated.

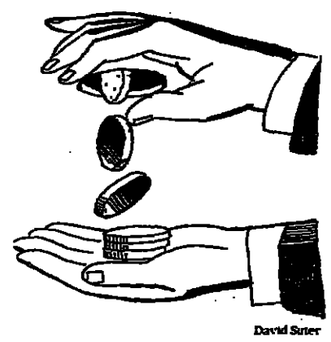
The proponents of the balanced budget amendment would deny this powerful tool for the prevention of depressions to future generations of political leaders. At the same time they are telling us that we should trust future politicians to have the courage to break a constitutional mandate. The kind of courage that current leaders, according to their own admission, do not possess. Actually they use their own lack of courage as their principal argument for the passage of the amendment.

Future generations of voters will curse them for this amendment, and if 1994 is any indication, will punish their own generation of politicians for the calamities they will have to suffer. CHARLES A. LAWNER
Tarrytown, N.Y., Feb. 23, 1995

The Great Rollback

To the Editor:

It is not necessary to observe that the aim of the Gingrich Republicans



David Suter

(Op-Ed, Feb. 22) is to repeal the legislation of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal and all the social programs enacted since (including despite disclaimers, Social Security; the balanced budget amendment takes care of that). This much is obvious and widely acknowledged. But their aim goes deeper.

Also on the block are the progressive laws dating from the time of Theodore Roosevelt (a Republican), at the beginning of the century: the generation that gave us the progressive income tax (already under attack), antitrust laws, child labor protection, pure food and drug laws, (also under fire) and other legislation that has protected and improved the quality of American life for almost a century. But even this is not the ultimate aim.

No. Mr. Gingrich's ultimate goal is nothing less than to reverse the legacy of the Civil War. Between 1861 and 1865, more than half a million Americans gave their lives to uphold the principle that the Federal Government, not the individual states, is the supreme law of the land. Abraham Lincoln (also a Republican) fought to insure that we remained one nation as the Founding Fathers intended, not a collection of localities making their own laws and squabbling with one another.

But now Mr. Gingrich wants to repeal that decision and turn basic responsibilities of government over to the individual states, despite their long history of weakness, inequality, inconsistency and, too often, corruption and disregard for human rights. Today's Republicans are in a mad rush to weaken the central power that kept this country united, free and strong for two centuries.

Our history is the story of how a collection of weak states welded themselves into a strong nation, under one flag, one overriding law, one citizenship. Now is not the time to reverse the process and destroy the gains. There are too many countries in today's world suffering the collapse of central authority for us to join them. PAUL ROHMANN
Putney, Vt., Feb. 22, 1995.

High-Tech Medicine Delivers on Cost Too

To the Editor:

In "Better Care, Yes. Cheaper, No Way" (Op-Ed, Feb. 18), Henry J. Aaron exposes an outdated vision of health care costs and benefits. Technology has revolutionized the way care can be delivered, not just the way patients are diagnosed and treated. A combination of phone lines, computers and cameras makes it possible for expertise at a major medical center to come to a patient and to that person's doctor.

If John has a strange skin growth, for example, a dermatologist hundreds of miles away can examine him. The local doctor takes an ordinary scope used to examine the skin, puts a tiny camera on the end of it, then shares the view of the skin growth with the distant specialist.

Four benefits result: (1) The patient with an unusual problem gets care from a specialist without leaving home; (2) the local doctor receives continuing education that has impact on patient care; (3) the local hospital keeps its revenue stream alive; (4) the local doctor and specialist establish a relationship that teaches them both something.

Breakthroughs in robotics and microsurgery can mean fewer operations. Hip replacements, root canals and other oft-repeated procedures can be done right the first time.

Genetic mapping and other biotechnology ventures can mean prevention of and cures for diseases. Innovations equip people who cannot move, speak or see with the ability to express themselves. The cost of technology should be judged using a more reasonable model than Mr. Aaron's. MARYANN KARINCH
Mill Valley, Calif., Feb. 22, 1995

The writer is author of "Telemedicine: What the Future Holds When You're Ill" (Far Hills, N.J., 1994).

Most Americans Would Restrict Abortion

To the Editor:

In "The G.O.P.'s Pro-Choice Majority" (editorial, Feb. 19), you use a recent poll to support your contention that most Republicans, like most Americans, are pro-choice. In fact, I read the graphic on the page as showing that 65 percent of Republicans (and 58 percent of Americans) want to place greater restrictions on abortion.

I am a Roman Catholic. I believe that abortion should be illegal except in case of rape, incest or threat to the life (not livelihood) of the mother.

Those three cases represent complicated moral dilemmas pitting self-defense or the involuntary creation of responsibility against termination of another life.

The course of action must be decided by soul-searching and consultation with loved ones and trusted counselors. Outside these three cases, it's murder.

My personal position puts me in the middle category in the survey: Abortion should be available but under stricter limits than it is now. Does that make me pro-choice? I don't think so.

What the majority of Americans want is the restriction of legal abortion within reasonable limits. This majority disagrees on what "reasonable limits" are, but the message of the poll is clear: unrestricted abortion on demand is a minority position. TIMOTHY PEACH
Cliffside Park, N.J., Feb. 19, 1995

Eating More Carrots Can Only Do You Good

To the Editor:

I would like to correct three erroneous inferences that might be drawn from the Feb. 22 Personal Health column on carotenoids.

First, animal foods like liver, eggs, cheese and butter are featured in a heart-healthy diet. All foods, including high-fat ones, may be eaten in small portions. Second, it would be difficult to develop vitamin A toxicity by eating foods rich in that nutrient. Overdosing is more likely to occur with supplements.

Last, Americans needn't be concerned about stripping so much fat from their diets that they won't absorb enough carotenoids if they eat a carrot between meals. More carrots, even between meals, would be a good thing. LAWRENCE LINDNER
Executive Editor, Tufts U.
Diet and Nutrition Letter
Boston, Feb. 23, 1995

Watchers on the Net

To the Editor:

Re "Hacker and Grifter Duel on the Net" (Week in Review, Feb. 19): Your injured tone regarding Tsutomu Shimomura's cybernetic capture of Kevin Mitnick serves readers poorly. Like a child who needs simplistic answers, you give us a hero and a villain so that we all might sleep better knowing the good guys are out there policing the Internet.

This pablum goes down hard when the "homebrew software" Mr. Shimomura used to chase Mr. Mitnick is open to uses "good" and "bad." That his expertise is no doubt monitored by the Pentagon, National Security Agency and who knows who else does not ease my mind.

I do not defend Mr. Mitnick's sociopathy, but will you be so happy once the skills used to take him in get used for sinister purposes? The distinction between grifter and hacker is softheaded. WARREN FRERICHS
Iowa City, Feb. 20, 1995

Don't Blame Israel for Creating Middle East's Suicide Bombers

To the Editor:

Re "Where Suicide Bombs Come From" (Op-Ed, Feb. 17):

Azmi Bishara asserts that the Israeli occupation, and not radical Islam, breeds violence and terror. As an Israeli citizen, I question the validity of this statement.

Suicide bombers come from the gutters of the refugee camps in the West Bank and Gaza. Angry and frustrated young Palestinians don't see a future in the overcrowded slums with sewage spilling in the streets, unemployment over 50 percent, no access to higher education — and all that without even living under Israeli occupation but under the rule of the Palestinian Authority.

These youths are deeply disappointed that Yasir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, and his officials are unable to demonstrate leadership and strength. These youths demand action and are an easy target for militants to recruit suicide bombers, to be a hero for one explosive moment.

I agree that the challenge to peace lies not in radical Islam but in everyday reality. I challenge the assumption that by abolishing the occupation, dismantling settlements and holding free elections we will achieve peace! This will just create a framework for the peace that is needed.

We, the people of Israel and Palestine, have to learn to develop trust in order to live with each other. We can't achieve that by separating our people and countries.

We have to press Western and Arab countries to contribute to economic development in the West Bank and Gaza. Construction of industrial parks, housing projects and infrastructure are top priorities to create the economic basis for democracy. Let our generation decide about the future of our children without having to shed more innocent blood. BERND WOLLSCHLAEGER
North Bay Village, Fla., Feb. 23, 1995

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include writer's name, address and telephone number. We regret that we cannot acknowledge unpublished letters. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036.

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Quayle Will Be Heard

To the Editor:

Your Feb. 11 editorial on the withdrawal of former Vice President Dan Quayle from the Republican Presidential race attributes false sentiments to me I would like to correct.

I consider Dan Quayle a friend who would have been a formidable candidate for President. I know, because I've worked with Dan Quayle in the Senate and seen the very real contributions this intelligent, dedicated public servant has made to America and to his constituents in Indiana.

Much to the frustration of many in the media, he has been an important and courageous voice for mainstream American values, and I know he will continue to contribute to the national dialogue.

Your editorial wasn't fair to Dan Quayle, to me or to your readers, who expect better from The Times. BOB DOLE
Senate Majority Leader
Washington, Feb. 22, 1995

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Foreign Affairs

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Boris, Bill & Voltaire

UNITED NATIONS

Ever since the French philosopher Voltaire carried on his famous 18th-century pen-pal correspondence with Russia's Catherine the Great, there has been a special relationship between the Russian and French elites. It was no accident that Tolstoy wrote the opening of "War and Peace" in French. After spending a day talking to delegates at the United Nations, I've been thinking that this old romance between Russia and France might have some modern-day applications.

American officials have been grumbling lately about a budding Russo-French alliance. Russia and France have teamed up against the U.S. to push for an early lifting of the U.N. sanctions on Iraq. They have also worked in tandem at times to ease the isolation of Serbia. The Russians have even probed about joining NATO on the same terms as France — being part of the alliance but not part of its military command. And the Russians have clearly taken to

Russia's French connection.

the French national sport of poking a stick in Washington's eye to assert independence.

I don't believe there is any real Russo-French strategic alliance; it's more a coincidence of pragmatism. But I do share the view, first articulated by Sovietologist Stephen Sestanovich, that the future of Russian foreign policy is "Gaullist" — that somewhere in the psyche of the Kremlin is a desire to create the sort of relationship with the U.S. that France enjoys. That is, to be seen as broadly part of the Western camp, but still free to define Russia's interests on a range of issues as different from America's — without creating a crisis in the relationship every time it does.

I think this Russian impulse should be nurtured. The problem with U.S. policy toward Russia today is that in order to persuade Congress to give aid to Moscow, Presidents Bush and Clinton oversold the relationship. Our aid to Russia, they declared, was intended to make Russia just like us.

When Russia does not behave like us, there are two responses. The "I-love-the-cold-war" crowd immediately calls for severing aid. Just last week, Newt Gingrich declared that "we should cut off all aid to Russia" if it sells nuclear reactors to Iran.

The Clinton Administration responds with the other extreme — apologizing for Boris Yeltsin, saying in effect: "Don't pay attention to that man behind the curtain. He's not really drunk. Chechnya was just an aberration, a speed bump on the road to democracy and blah, blah, blah." All of which only signals to the Russians that there is little cost to misbehavior.

In other words, right now we have a conceptual approach toward Russia that does not fit the reality of Russia. We keep checking to see if the Russians have become like us, and when we discover they haven't we want to either punish them in ways that only hurt reformers there, or turn a blind eye. It is time we started thinking of Russia as being more like France and less like us — but only if the Russians are ready to do the same.

You see, the French may disagree with us on issues. They might even kick our spies out of Paris. But it is virtually unimaginable that France would ever take a position that threatened fundamental U.S. national security interests. It is unlikely that Russia today would take such a threatening position — but not unimaginable.

The reason for that difference is that France is an established democracy and an established state. It knows exactly who it is and where its borders are. The modern Russian state is basically three years old. It is not an established democracy, and it is not certain about its borders or who its citizens are. Russia today is America in 1779. That is 10 years before we agreed on a constitution and 82 years before we had our own civil war.

It would actually be healthy for us to think of Russia the way we think of France. That is, drawing red lines to define fundamental U.S. interests (and I think banning nuclear reactors for Iran is one of those), while learning to raise our eyebrows in other cases and say of the Russians what we say of the French: "What else do you expect? It's the French."

We have to understand the difference between a pain in the neck and a mortal threat. But we will only be able to treat Russia like France after the Russians learn to respect red lines the way the French do. Russia can only be France in our eyes after Russia decides who Russia is. □

Journal

FRANK RICH

Cheney Dumbs Down

So it wasn't the Army-McCarthy hearings. But those who were there say that the biographer David McCullough's Congressional testimony 10 days ago was a home run. In arguing for the National Endowment for the Humanities, the agency that finances museums, libraries and academic research, Mr. McCullough didn't cite Truman but he did quote Kennedy, Jefferson and, rather more prosaically, Lynne Cheney, who said in 1991 that the N.E.H.'s projects "are sound investments for the Federal Government to make, even during this era of fiscal constraints."

Lynne Cheney? Didn't she call for the complete abolition of the same agency before the same committee last month? Well, yes. She is also the same Lynne Cheney who ran the N.E.H. from 1986 through 1992, singing its praises all the way. Now that she is leading the right-wing vigilantes to kill it, some might call her a hypocrite. But not Mr. McCullough. He just used Mrs. Cheney's own words to demolish the credibility of her recent about-face.

Mr. McCullough's testimony, though untelevised, may finally slow down Mrs. Cheney's self-promoting and now ubiquitous misinformation campaign to brand her former agency a leftist threat to Western civilization. The blunt instrument of her attack is an N.E.H. project called the National History Standards, a wholly voluntary, as yet provisional history curriculum for the nation's schools that, to hear her tell it, is so "politicized" it slights the Constitution.

Her demonization of the standards has taken some fancy footwork, given that Mrs. Cheney underwrote the project herself while at the N.E.H., calling the standards her "favorite grant." She now claims they were sabotaged by "forces of political correctness" after she left office, but that is strongly disputed by Charlotte Crabtree of U.C.L.A., whom Mrs. Cheney herself anointed as the standards' co-director. In an interview, Professor Crabtree said that some of the American history standards Mrs. Cheney now attacks had already been drafted and disseminated before she left the agency.

Even if Fidel Castro had hijacked the standards, that would be no reason to abolish the N.E.H. To borrow an analogy from Mr. McCullough, "It would be like saying that because of the Tailhook scandal we must get rid of the Navy." But now that the standards are being read, more scholars are discovering Mrs. Cheney's intellectual shell game, in which she misrepresents their contents by quoting selectively.

A typical gambit: Mrs. Cheney said on "Crossfire" that the Constitution is not mentioned by name in a three-page "overview" of the standards, without saying that it receives a six-page section of its own. Even Albert Shanker of the American Federation of Teachers, a critic of the project, has called Mrs. Cheney "wildly off-base" on this point.

Historians find the standards flawed but fixable. In a speech in New York on Wednesday, Arthur Schlesinger Jr. said, "If our high school graduates could absorb half the information in the United States History volume, we would all be delighted — and astonished." Another skeptic of multicultural history,

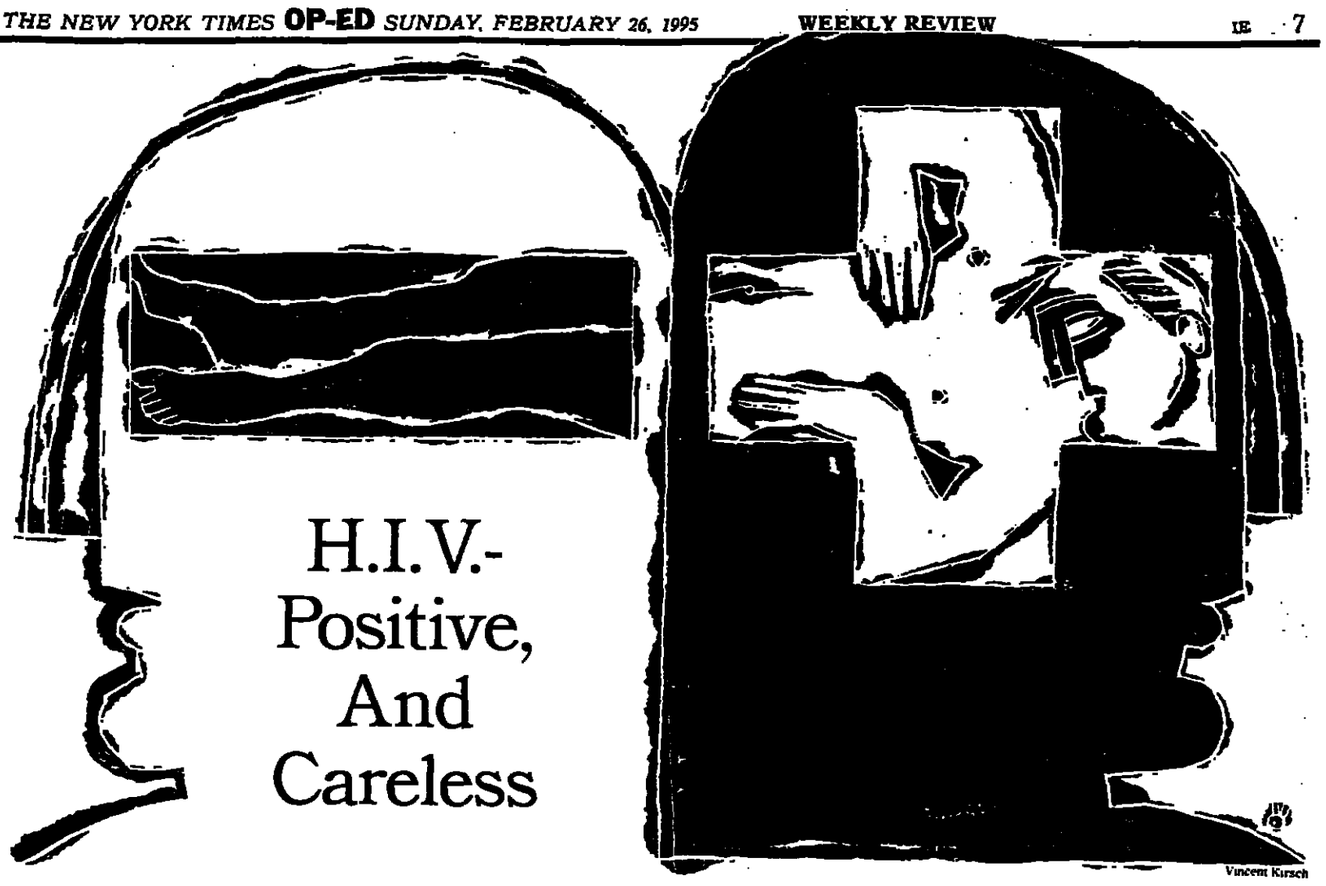
The end of standards.

Hanna Holborn Gray, former president of the University of Chicago, calls the world history standards "a generally balanced, fairly interesting and appropriately broad and integrated approach." Even Diane Ravitch, who co-financed the standards as a Bush Administration Department of Education appointee but now finds them seriously deficient, wants them revised, not abandoned.

But such entreaties don't deter Mrs. Cheney, whose major concern is to find a Limbaughesque political vehicle to ride to the next G.O.P. Administration. It's hardly schoolchildren she's thinking about.

And that's the greatest hypocrisy of all. By calling for an end to standards in schools, rather than for a genuine debate as to how such standards might be improved without reducing history to a pablum of names and dates, Mrs. Cheney is only contributing to the national dumbing down. Should she succeed in maiming the N.E.H., she'll knock off programs at the high end of the educational system too. It says everything about how far our broader cultural standards have fallen that Mrs. Cheney's rant has so far dominated the debate while quieter voices like David McCullough's are only now beginning to be heard. □





H.I.V.-Positive, And Careless

Vincent Kirsch

By Michelangelo Signorile

Everywhere you turn these days, it seems, there is another report about the alarming breakdown in safe sex among gay men. In a current study financed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, two-thirds of the gay men participating say they have had unprotected sex in the previous 18 months. And after leveling off in the late 1980's, the H.I.V. infection rate among gay men is once again on the rise.

These reports have not surprised me. In moments of profound carelessness, I have also engaged in unsafe sex. Now I find myself in total uncertainty about my H.I.V. status, yet fearful of being tested.

The chilling statistics, combined with my own predicament, make me question the message most AIDS organizations have been sending in their safer sex education campaigns. In general, they have refused to emphasize the particular responsibilities of H.I.V.-positive men, and they have not been attentive to the needs of H.I.V.-negative men, who often feel guilt-ridden because they are still healthy and are in denial about their vulnerability.

In my own case, it's been three years since I was last tested (negative). I thought that by now I'd have been tested again. Instead, I'm trying to deal with the war raging inside my head. I'm not sure I want to know the truth, and it's clear that I'm not alone. "As far as I'm concerned, the psychological damage has been far worse than any of the health benefits," says a longtime friend, an AIDS activist who has known for six years that he is H.I.V.-positive. "I'd have been spared six years of knowing."

Another reason I'm reluctant to be tested is that I quite honestly don't trust myself when it comes to sexual behavior. Having repeatedly tested negative through the late 80's and early 90's, I began to feel falsely confident — as if I were somehow immune to H.I.V. Those feelings enabled me to have unsafe sex, fueling my desire to be carefree and a risk-taker. Now, feeling uncertain about my H.I.V. status, I've been more responsible and more aware.

Not surprisingly, a Baltimore study from the mid-1980's (backed up by subsequent studies) showed that men who tested negative were more likely to engage in unsafe sex within the first six months after they received their test results, leading researchers to conclude that "disclosure of a negative test may have implied to a study participant that he was in some way 'protected' because previous sexual practices did not lead to H.I.V. infection."

On the other hand, I'm frightened that finding out I was *positive* might also play into my carefree nature, that I might in my darkest moments care little about the concerns of an H.I.V.-negative man.

Several H.I.V.-positive men have confided to me that they regularly engage in unprotected sex, rationalizing that the other guy is responsible for himself and must know what he's doing. "I just tell myself that these guys are probably positive," one said to me, because they didn't demand that he put on a condom. "But I know — and realize later — that I have no way of knowing that."

Greg Scott, an AIDS activist in Washington, believes that he infected some of the "many" men with whom he had unprotected sex long after he found out he was H.I.V.-positive. For several years, during the time that he was at the forefront of AIDS activism, he says he was in denial about his own behavior. "I was resolved to practice safe sex, and my philosophy would not have allowed me to be unsafe," he says. "But using drugs and alcohol allowed me to have sex without condoms. It provided the excuse."

These scenarios grip me with fear and sadness. After much thought, I realize that I owe it not only to myself but to my sexual partners to know my H.I.V. status. If I find I am negative, I have a responsibility to keep myself that way, to overcome urges to act in ways that put me at risk — no matter what fuels them and no matter how difficult they may be to fight off. And if I am positive, I have a different but equal responsibility: not to put others at risk, and to understand that not all H.I.V.-negative people are equipped to deal with the responsibilities of safer sex.

That message, about the responsibilities of the H.I.V.-positive, is contrary to what the AIDS establishment — from Gay Men's Health Crisis to Act Up — emphasizes in safer sex education and in political rhetoric.

"The fact is that they have always placed most if not all of the onus on the H.I.V.-negative person not to become infected," Greg Scott says. "None of us, when we go for testing and counseling, are truly told that we're supposed to be *responsible* — that we, as H.I.V.-positive people, have an enormous, grave responsibility in this." He added, "A lot of the politics of it have been about a fear of stigmatizing positive people. It's an attempt to equalize all people in this fight, but it's a lie, because those of us who are infected have very different responsibilities than those who are not infected."

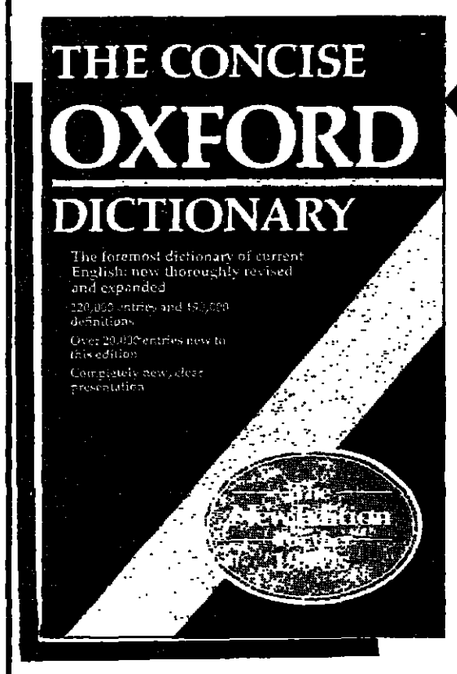
Unsafe sex is back, and AIDS groups can share the blame.

Ten years ago the gay community was fighting off hate-mongers who were intent on locking up H.I.V.-positive people; as a community we needed to foster self-esteem among H.I.V.-positive gay men and to guard against attempts to stigmatize them. Now it seems that some of what we did for those who are positive was at the expense of those who are desperately trying to remain negative.

"The obvious idea that AIDS prevention is *for* H.I.V.-negative men — those who do not presently have H.I.V. — is a controversial, politically inflammatory assertion" in most AIDS organizations, Walt Odets, a Berkeley clinical psychologist, wrote in the spring 1994 issue of the AIDS and Public Policy Journal. He went on: "The confused retort is that AIDS prevention is *for the gay community*.... Many H.I.V.-positive men quite understandably have different ideas and feelings about life, and live with different values and objectives than H.I.V.-negative men. Despite what we would like to believe politically, many positive men are not taking responsibility for protecting negative men from H.I.V. and do not see why they should."

As the Republican Congress proposes slashing funds in programs from AIDS prevention campaigns to the National Institutes of Health budget, the gay community has the power to alter the course of the AIDS crisis if we face this challenge and change the things that are in our control. That responsibility now rests with our Byzantine AIDS organizations as well as with each of us as individuals. □

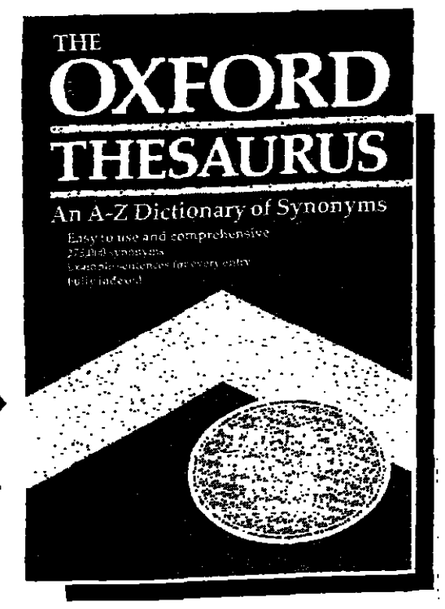
Michelangelo Signorile is author of the forthcoming "Outing Yourself." This article is adapted from an essay in the March issue of Out magazine.



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FILM

Western Canvas, Palette of Blood



John Bryson Sygma

Ken Hutchison, left, Dustin Hoffman and Del Heeney in Sam Peckinpah's 1971 "Straw Dogs"—A legacy of intense ballets of violence.



The director on the set of "Convoy" (1978)—Not fun and games.

By JAMES GREENBERG

Sam Peckinpah is being hailed as much for artistry and character portrayal as for the violence he orchestrated.

Sam Peckinpah was already regarded as a volatile personality in Hollywood when he and his band of outsiders went down to Mexico in the spring of 1968 to film "The Wild Bunch." With his use of slow-motion gunfights, spurting blood and fractured editing, Peckinpah created a savage tableau of violence and redemption. But for all its bloodletting "The Wild Bunch" has influenced a generation of film makers, not only with its bold technique but with its surprisingly graceful exploration of character.

"I think Peckinpah has been misinterpreted to mean how many heads can you blow off," says the director Ron Shelton. "But in the middle of the action there are characters to whom great attention has been paid."

Peckinpah's name has long been a benchmark for action directors (John Woo is "Hong Kong's answer to Sam Peckinpah," said Stephen Holden of The New York Times) and for violent films ("Reservoir Dogs" is "the most aggressively brutal movie since Sam Peckinpah's 'Straw Dogs,'" said The Times's Vincent Canby).

Now Peckinpah, who died of a heart attack in 1984, is undergoing the kind of public reappraisal that often happens to dead artists. On Friday Warner Brothers will re-release "The Wild Bunch," and a retrospective of 14 of the director's films, "Blood of a Poet: The Cinema According to Sam Peckinpah," will run from March 10 through March 31 at the Film Society of Lincoln Center.

"The Wild Bunch" generated debate as soon as it opened, in July 1969. One irate audience member at a Kansas City preview wrote her Congressman complaining about the violence. Warner Brothers trimmed the film in response to poor initial business. And even today the film creates controversy. When the studio announced last year that it would release a restored version of the movie — a movie that was rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America in 1969 — it was deemed so violent that it was given an NC-17 rating. The M.P.A.A. subsequently determined that the film was entitled to its original R, andon Friday American moviegoers will have their first chance to see "The Wild Bunch" in a theater as it was intended by its director.

The mournful story the film tells is of a changing West where there is no room for honest outlaws. It's 1913, and the shrinking wild bunch, led by a weathered William Holden and Ernest Borgnine, wants to pull one more job and gets caught up stealing guns for a renegade Mexican general who's fighting Pancho Villa. At the same time, the men are being chased by bounty hunters led by an ex-partner in crime, Robert Ryan.

"Peckinpah instantly understood the dark philosophy and inherent violence of the film, and he went for the throat of that," says Walon Green, whose screenplay for the film was later embellished by the director. "But more important, he also picked up on the fact that these guys only had loyalty going for them. He saw this incredibly violent existence and this romantic, almost pathetic, loyalty."

The cynical disillusionment of Peckinpah's characters was in keeping with the times. Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King were assassinated while Peckinpah was making "The Wild Bunch." The Vietnam War escalated. Despite the protests of the old Hollywood, movies were turning toward meaner, more realistic stories. "Midnight Cowboy" won the Academy Award for best film in 1969. Traditional boundaries between good guys and bad guys became meaningless. With the release of "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" and "Once Upon a Time in the West" the same year, the western would never be the same.

■

"Let's face it, these were no longer the tranquil, benign Eisenhower years," says the director Arthur Penn, whose film "Bonnie and Clyde" had caused a stir two years earlier. "No one could touch a subject without being affected by what was going on in the country. You had to be an ostrich with a neck two miles long buried in the sand not to see we were living in a violent time."

If Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway in "Bonnie and Clyde" led audiences toward social and political rebellion, Peckinpah seduced them with violence. Interviewed at the time of the film's release, Peckinpah said that he wanted to "take the facade of movie violence and open it up, get people involved ... and then twist it so that it's not fun anymore, just a wave of sickness in the gut. It's not fun and games and cowboys and Indians," he said. "It's a terrible, ugly thing."

■

In the film, Holden blows a woman off her feet, and viscera fly through the air in the final, slow-motion bloodbath. It is obvious that Peckinpah was as attracted to destruction as he was repulsed by it. A heavy drinker most of his life, Peckinpah poured his pain and self-loathing into the film and inflicted his suffering on family, friends and colleagues. "He could be hell on wheels," Mr. Borgnine says. "He fired an assistant director 17 times."

His gift was that he could dramatize his demons on screen, and in "The Wild Bunch" they came roaring to life. Paul Schrader, who plowed similar territory in his screenplay for "Taxi Driver" (1976) and who has directed pictures like "Patty Hearst" (1988) and "Light Sleeper" (1992), says he learned from Peckinpah to "go into your neuroses, to go into those things about yourself that you fear, not to cover them up but open them up."

When it came time to make "The Wild Bunch," it wasn't enough for Peckinpah to have men simply fall over and die. Both Peckinpah and Mr. Penn had observed Akira Kurosawa's use of slow motion in "The Seven Samurai" and had experimented with the technique in their early films. And with the endless dissection of the Zapruder film of President John F. Kennedy's assassination and the shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald on television, slow motion almost unconsciously became the voice of violence.

"Bonnie and Clyde" had already used four cameras filming at different speeds to record the 22-seconds of what Mr. Penn calls "the spastic lyricism" of its climactic scene, and Peckinpah was aiming to outdo that. "We're going to bury 'Bonnie and Clyde,'" he told a crew member on the set of "The Wild Bunch."

Peckinpah set up six cameras and spent four weeks composing the four minutes of climactic carnage. He planted thousands of squibs, tiny blood-filled explosive devices concealed on an actor's body, to show the impact of the bullets. But ordinary squibbing wasn't enough for Peckinpah; he ordered the movie blood mixed with pieces of meat. He also wanted actors squibbed front and back so that a bullet would appear to go in *and* come out.

On breaks between scenes, with hundreds of extras from the Mexican Army standing by, Peckinpah wandered the set with a can of freshly mixed movie blood, sprinkling it around, Mr. Borgnine recalls. "We'd watch him and say, 'Atta boy, Sam. More blood,'" the actor says with a hearty laugh.

On some days the action became so real that grown men would break down. "I had a stand-in who had been with Patton during World War II," Mr. Borgnine says. "After an extremely hard day in which guns were going off and blasting away and everything else, I looked over at him and he was crying. 'What's the matter, Freddy?' I asked him. 'I can't take it, I can't take it,' he said. "He had been shell-shocked during the war, and this brought back too many memories."

■

Despite the frequent fireworks on the set, few of the cast or crew recognized the expressionist vision of violence that Peckinpah had in mind. Working with his editor Lou Lombardo, Peckinpah stitched together varying speeds of slow-motion with normal-speed action to build an intense and irresistible ballet of violence.

In the opening scene — a bank robbery in which the bunch is ambushed by the bounty hunters — a gunfighter's fall from a balcony is intercut with surrounding action four times before he hits the ground. By cutting between parallel action, Peckinpah and Mr. Lombardo stretched time and trapped the audience in an emotional maelstrom. The first 151-minute version of the film had 3,642 cuts — compared with 600 in the average two-hour film of the period.

"The Wild Bunch" carries such an emotional punch that many film makers remember the first time they saw it as a formative experience. Kathryn Bigelow, the director of "Point Break" (1991) and one of the few women making action movies in Hollywood, saw "The Wild Bunch" in the mid-70's on a double bill with Martin Scorsese's equally explosive "Mean Streets." After that, Ms. Bigelow, then a painter, found herself thinking more and more about film as a vehicle of expression. "If you looked at it from an editorial standpoint, it's almost gestalt editing," she says. "It defied so many principles, basically turning everything around. It imploded standard theories. It was radical and tremendously vibrant."

Mr. Shelton, the director, who first saw a matinee of "The Wild Bunch in Little Rock, Ark., where he was playing minor-league baseball, says: "Sam shot massive amounts of coverage and angles, and that added to the nervous energy. He created life through cuts." The film, Mr. Shelton notes, got "all over and under my skin, and it's been there ever since." In appreciation, he says, his interpretation of the self-destructive and bad-tempered hero of his latest film, "Cobb," was based on stories he had heard about Peckinpah.

When Mr. Scorsese was still a New York University film instructor trying to break into features, his friend Jay Cocks, then a critic for Time magazine and later a screenwriterof Mr. Scorsese's "Age of Innocence," took him to an early screening of "The Wild Bunch." The two of them sat alone in the theater spellbound.

"The exhilaration had to do with the way he used film and the way he used the images with a number of different cameras going at different speeds," Mr. Scorsese is quoted as saying in "If They Move ... Kill 'Em!," a biography of Peckinpah by David Weddle (Grove Press). "You really got a wonderful choreographed effect; it's like dance or like poetry." Peckinpah's innovations were later adapted and advanced by Mr. Scorsese in the startling multispeed, blood-drenched boxing sequences of "Raging Bull."

Peckinpah's influence was not limited to America. In the opening sequence of the Macedonian film "Before the Rain," which has been nominated for an academy award in the best-foreign-film category, the director Milcho Manchevski has a group of children torture two turtles, then set them on fire. This seems an obvious homage to the opening of "The Wild Bunch," in which children cover a scorpion with red ants and then burn it.

In the 1993 film "Flight of the Innocent," the Italian director Carlo Carlei tells a story of rural gang warfare and kidnapped children in the cinematic language he learned from Peckinpah. "The influence of Peckinpah comes to me filtered by other directors I like who were influenced by him," Mr. Carlei says. "There is a chain of inspiration like the Bible. Everything comes from Peckinpah when talking about shooting scenes. Other prophets tried to perfect it and are part of an evolution."

It is virtually impossible to see a killing on film or television today that is not shot in graphic slow motion. In his film "Extreme Prejudice" Walter Hill re-created action sequences from "The Wild Bunch" shot for shot. And film makers who are not familiar with Peckinpah's work still emulate it. Sharon Stone's recent feminist western, "The Quick and the Dead," features Peckinpah-esque gunplay even though the director, Sam Raimi, says he has never seen "The Wild Bunch." Mr. Schrader says, "Clearly there are a lot of imitators who don't come from the same place and are just picking the fruit without feeling the pain."

While many films today surpass "The Wild Bunch" in explicitness, their violence is often cartoonish or self-referential. "I find the violence in the Joel Silver films pretty offensive, where it's totally there for entertainment value," says Mr. Green, the screenwriter for "The Wild Bunch" and now a co-executive producer for the television series "N.Y.P.D. Blue." "The violence is made so accessible and thrown at you at such high speed that it's no longer violent. People laugh or goof off and eat popcorn."

For Mr. Penn, even the much-heralded movies of Quentin Tarantino — "Reservoir Dogs" and "Pulp Fiction" — are films about films and not films about experience. "No one in 'Pulp Fiction' had function or depth or individuation," he says. "It's kind of a movie comic strip, and that's what Tarantino does very well. But it doesn't have the visceral power. When violence is grounded in character, then you suffer loss and terror and pain."



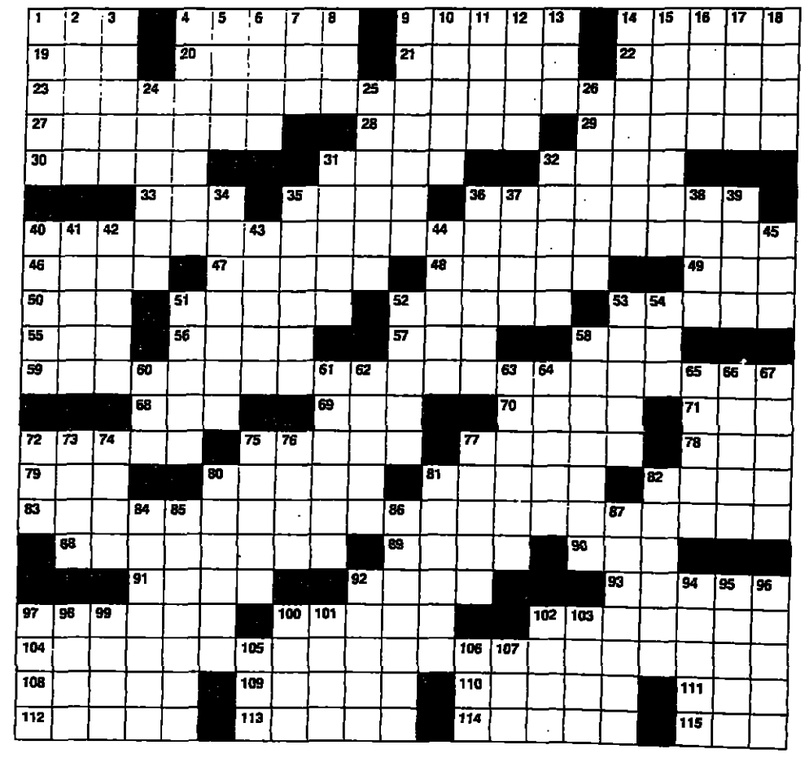
Photofest

William Holden in "The Wild Bunch"

James Greenberg is a freelance writer who covers the entertainment industry.

EVERY TOM, DICK AND HARRY

By Fred Piscop / Edited by Will Shortz



ACROSS

1 Pro ——
4 Singer Khan
9 Stately
14 Jimmy of "NYPD Blue"
19 Japanese admiral Yuko
20 Was moribund
21 Ne plus ultra
22 U.S. Chief Justice, 1836-64
23 Tom, Dick and Harry
27 Strips
28 Battery inventor
29 Just conclusion?
30 First name in skating
31 Telephone man
32 Cartoon dog
33 Turkish honorific
35 Part of N.B.
36 Buckets, perhaps
40 Tom, Dick and Harry
46 Ye —— Curiosity Shoppe
47 Irish actor Patrick
48 Nay sayers
49 Christian ——
50 Apollo component, for short
51 Forearm parts
52 Flexible
53 Redhead?
55 One at the start
56 In view
57 Battery type
58 Admission requirements, informally
59 Tom, Dick and Harry
68 "—— est celare artem" (Latin proverb)
69 Council member: Abbr.
70 Grease monkey's task
71 Mouths, anatomically
72 Dental restoration
75 Cornerstone features
77 Novel forms
78 Small songbird
79 Duffer's dream
80 Opposite of remove
81 1928 Fritz Lang thriller
82 Thorn, for one
83 Tom, Dick and Harry
88 Enough
89 Gaming table equipment
90 Churl
91 Fontanne's partner
92 Sweeping
93 Bank holdings: Abbr.
97 Burial markers
100 They can always be counted on
102 Where Medicine Hat is
104 Tom, Dick and Harry
108 "Count ——!"
109 Star in Orion
110 Norse pantheon
111 Forty-niner's need
112 Trattoria topper
113 Cup. in Caen
114 Projecting part
115 Guinness suffix

DOWN

1 Shakespeare's mad general
2 Prefix with centric
3 Bewail
4 Simoleons
5 Scene of busyness
6 "——, my Love! ye do me wrong"
7 Baseball's Griffey Sr. or Jr.
8 Make sense, with "up"
9 Composer Rimsky-Korsakov
10 Digger —— of "The Life of Riley"
11 Recipe instruction
12 "Peyton Place" actress Wood
13 Old age, in old times
14 More poker-faced
15 Actor without lines?
16 Actress Swenson
17 Socials
18 Auld lang ——
24 Needles, Calif., locale
25 Mimieux of "Where the Boys Are"
26 Central positions
31 Is wearisome
32 "Do ——"
34 Ornamental bands
35 Japanese city, host of the 1998 Winter Olympics
36 Cambridge student
37 Flower: Prefix
38 Govt. agents
39 Madras garb
40 Soil layer
41 Nicholas Gage book
42 Mingle with
43 "Olympia" painter
44 Young dragonfly
45 A Bobbsey twin
51 Shylock's terms
52 Hauls in
53 Thomas Hardy's "—— Little Ironies"
54 Skeleton starter
58 Hot sauce
60 Pasture cry
61 Kind of son or American
62 Coeur d' ——, Idaho
63 Skater Zayak
64 Went downhill fast?
65 Still in bed
66 Singer Lopez
67 Finished dinner
72 W. Hemisphere treaty grp.
73 Tourn. sponsor since 1939
74 Satyric
75 Gold coin
76 Rat ——
77 Talked, old-style
80 Trimmed
81 Bowl locales
82 Traveled à la Heyerdahl
84 Not wait to be called
85 On a par with
86 Hardly a torrent
87 Site of early Beatles gigs
92 Goods
94 Beef
95 Lab burners
96 Virtuous one
97 Corn porridge
98 Place for a small house
99 Slaughter in baseball
100 Inter ——
101 Luggage
102 Charlie Chan comment
103 Beef cut
105 PC monitor
106 Fuzz
107 Van —— Waals forces (physics topic)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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Child-development experts find self-esteem isn't enough

PARENTING

LAURA SESSIONS STEPP

YOU know those self-esteem champions, apostles of the human potential movement, who preach that children should be told over and over again how wonderful they are? Close your eyes and imagine that you are perfect, goes one of their exercises. Write down five things that make you special, goes another.

Boost the self-esteem of a child, self-esteem proponents say, and you will see achievement soar. Teach self-esteem and youth won't be tempted to pop drugs or have babies. "Self-esteem can save lives," proclaims one of hundreds of books on the subject.

Born in California, the self-esteem movement has wound its way into educational curricula and entire schools, parent-training programs and parenting books.

Everywhere you turn these days, adults are passing out stars, stickers and trophies to children for not doing much more than showing up.

But new voices are emerging, saying teaching self-esteem is a waste of time and resources, a dangerous distraction from truly significant tasks of building knowledge, skills and character.

A positive self-concept is important, they agree, but it cannot be divorced from accomplishment or a healthy relationship with others.

"You can't have self-esteem in the abstract," says educational psychologist William Damon, one of the new critics. "It is meaningless to say 'I am a great person,' without having to go through the steps of who you are, what you stand for and what you're able to do."



Many parents believe one can't praise a child too much, but excessive praise can lead to distrust of adults and a sense of self-doubt. (Nitsan Shorer)

CRITICISM OF the self-esteem movement is not entirely new.

Detractors surfaced the moment California, in 1987, created a Task Force to Promote Self-Esteem. Schools should be teaching facts, not feelings, they said.

The newer analysts say schools should foster social and moral development as well as intellectual growth. Children thrive when expression and achievement are present, they say.

They say children should be treated as inherently capable, purposeful beings who desire to be engaged in the world around them.

"Students acquire a sense of significance from doing significant things," education writer Alfie Kohn says in a recent issue of *Phi Delta Kappa*, an education journal.

Damon, a professor of education at Brown University, echoes this in his book, *Greater Expectations: Overcoming the Culture of Indulgence in America's Homes and Schools* (Free Press, $23). It is the obligation of teachers and parents, he writes, to provide both the opportunity for challenging work and the disciplined environment in which to do it.

Few educational concepts have taken hold as fast as the idea that feeling good about oneself – what the psychologists call global self-esteem – is essential to academic achievement and social success.

According to Kohn, scientists have designed more than 200 measurements and made more than 10,000 studies in an attempt to prove this.

The data, however, have not complied. "Scientists rarely have been able to connect, in a direct or unambiguous way, a child's global sense of self to any important behavior or skill in the child's social, emotional or intellectual life," writes Damon, calling this "one of the great disappointments in empirical studies of child development."

Scholars at the University of California were asked by the state's task force on self-esteem to review data relating self-esteem to socially acceptable behaviors.

"The non-relationship holds between self-esteem and teenage pregnancy, self-esteem and child abuse, self-esteem and most cases of alcohol and drug use," sociologist Neil Smelser wrote in the group's 1990 report.

And these were people who *wanted* to find a connection.

Examinations of the link between self-esteem enhancement programs and performance in school have produced similar findings, according to Thomas Moeller, psychology professor at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

"What is clear from various studies is that global self-concept does not cause academic achievement," he writes in the *Virginia Journal of Education*.

Damon and his colleagues warn their quarrel with self-esteem programs is not just an academic debate; techniques designed to boost self-esteem often hurt children more than help them.

In an evaluation of a federal Head Start program called Project Follow-Through, researchers found programs explicitly designed to promote self-esteem actually produced less than programs designed to improve academic performance.

MANY PARENTS operate on the principle that one can't praise a child too much. But praise, showered excessively or disconnected from specific accomplishments or attributes, can lead to distrust of adults and ultimately to "a gnawing sense of self-doubt," says Damon.

Robert Tauber, education professor at Pennsylvania State University in Erie, cites an example: "Say a kid comes home saying she wasn't selected for the diving team. Dad says, 'Well, they're out of their minds. You're the best diver around.'

"Now someone is lying, either the coach or the father. The kid quickly figures out that Dad was saying that just to be nice. Then she thinks back to that paper she did last week that Dad said he liked and she wonders, was it any good?"

Kids aren't stupid, notes a senior in high school in the District of Columbia. "Being praised for everything makes you feel worse. You ask yourself, if everything is getting praised, what is worth doing?"

This young man, one of a dozen students gathered for lunch in an empty classroom, agreed with his classmates: Praise junk and you undermine kids.

You also get more junk, says Penn State's Tauber who, like other analysts, worries about long-term effects of the self-esteem movement. Too often, they say, self-esteem proponents focus children's attention on themselves alone rather than in relationship to others: "I am special," rather than "We are special."

"Any talk about generosity or caring is prefaced with the assertion that you must love yourself first in order to be able to love others," Alfie Kohn writes, "a belief that is decidedly debatable and also liable to result in people's failing to get past the first step."

Damon sees another danger to children placing themselves first.

"They come to ignore the guidance and feedback of others," he says. "They learn to act as their own sole moral self-referents ... [and] cannot acquire a stable sense of right and wrong." (The Washington Post)

Despite dangers, court allows coalition pact

LAW REPORT

ASHER FELIX LANDAU

In the Supreme Court, sitting as a High Court of Justice, before President Justice Meir Shamgar, Deputy President Justice Aharon Barak, and justices Eliezer Goldberg, Theodore Orr and Mishael Cheshin, in the matter of advocate Ze'ev Velner and others, petitioners, versus the Israel Labor Party, the Shas party and others, respondents (H.C.5364/94 and five others).

THE coalition agreement signed by the Labor and Shas parties in July included a provision, section 3, which provided, inter alia, that "to the extent that the status quo in matters of religion will be disturbed, the parties undertake to restore the situation by legislation."

Justices Shamgar, Goldberg and Cheshin considered the dangers and problems created by section 3. The president and Justice Goldberg found the agreement unlawful in that it neutralized in advance any judgment upsetting the status quo in religious matters, without examining the facts and reasons for the decision. Moreover, it disturbed the separation of and balance between the legislature and the judiciary. Justice Goldberg also stressed the potential damage to the court's status.

Justice Cheshin found the agreement undesirable, though not unlawful, and said it lacked binding legal force between the parties. The three judges declined to intervene, believing the problems would be resolved within the democratic political process.

JUSTICE BARAK dissented from the president. He first emphasized that the Knesset's right to change judicial decisions by legislation was not in doubt. Moreover, there was no legal flaw in legislation which preserved the status quo in religious matters or in any other context.

The difficulty was that section 3 of the agreement turned the judicial process into a game. Instead of the court's judgments and their reasons being seriously considered, they would become self-destructive. The court was not a pawn on a political chess board. Its function was to resolve concrete disputes after proper enquiry. The constitutional consequences of section 3 were inconceivable.

The first harmful result of section 3 would be the blow to judicial independence, which is one of the pillars of democracy. The court would act under a continual hidden threat: "Do your best not to disturb the status quo, for if you do your judgment will be worthless." He said he did not mean to imply that the parties consciously intended to threaten the court, but the indirect threat was certainly there.

Another feature would be the public's loss of confidence in the judiciary. Stripping the court of its judicial function to resolve disputes effectively would necessarily diminish the status of the judge. Society would ask: What is the purpose of petitioning the court in a matter of religion if its decisions are worthless? The public could also believe that judges would be influenced to preserve the status quo, to avoid their judgments becoming mere pieces of paper.

The second harmful result of section 3 was the blow to the principle of the separation of powers, a central feature of our constitutional law. Each arm of government functioned mainly in its own domain, while the mutual relations between them created a balance between their respective activities.

Cooperation between the legislature and the judiciary was a "bridge" between two "partners." The senior "partner" was the legislature which laid down the law; the "junior" was the judiciary which interpreted it. The court's interpretation of statutes enabled the legislature to pass new bills. The legislature built the foundations, and the judiciary built the beams.

Section 3 of the agreement destroyed the bridge and broke the partnership. This result harmed the constitutional structure of our society. Justice Barak added that the justice minister shared this opinion.

The agreement would do substantial harm to our basic democratic values. Citing Zarazevsky's case (H.C.1635/90; *The Jerusalem Post*, March 6, 1991), he held that whether or not it was justiciable, in the sense that it bound the parties in the sphere of private law, was irrelevant. It certainly fell within the bounds of judicial review in the sphere of public law.

The court's power to intervene in governmental decisions was clear, but it had a discretion. Citing the cases of Sarid and Pinhasi (H.C.652/81 and 4267/93-*Selected Supreme Court Judgments* [English], Vol. VIII, p.52; the *Post*, September 20, 1993), Justice Barak reiterated that it would only intervene in Knesset proceedings in which "serious harm" would be caused to Israel's constitutional structure. He was prepared to apply the same test in the present case.

The harm which would be caused by section 3 was by no means marginal. It struck at the status of the judiciary and could harm the community's faith in its judges. It also infringed the principle of the separation of powers. Failure to invalidate section 3 now would invite further coalition agreements to breach the wall of our constitutional edifice. He was aware of the court's reluctance to intervene in the legislative process, but he stressed that, in this case, the process had not yet even begun.

He agreed with the president about the importance of freedom of political activity, and the reluctance of the court to intervene in political agreements, save in the most extreme cases. For this reason he found insufficient grounds to interfere with the other provisions in the agreement (relating to the proposed amendment of section 10 of the Basic Law: The Dignity and Freedom of Man). The harm done by section 3, however, was far more serious.

The president had written, "Elements which try to restrict the court's vital function in a democratic society will arise and change, but the independent unbiased court in the State of Israel will stand for ever." He did not share that optimism. Centuries-old trees have been felled with one stroke of an ax. The task of preserving the rule of law was continuous and relentless.

He proposed, therefore, that the petitions be allowed, and section 3 of the agreement be set aside.

JUSTICE ORR agreed with Justice Barak.

It was the court's duty, he said, to interpret the law on the basis of concrete disputes which litigants brought before it. It laid down how the law was to be applied after its decision. In Bavli's case (H.C.1000/92; the *Post*, March 21, 1994) it held that the rule of community of property between spouses, which had been recognized in Israeli law for decades, was to be applied by rabbinical courts. Orthodox sectors of the community saw that decision as a disturbance of the "status quo." In other words, every matter not yet decided by the court was part of the "status quo."

Section 3 of the agreement was not "bypassing" the court, as the justice minister had said. It annulled in advance all its judgments in matters of religion which have not been resolved. Litigants and the judges themselves were to know that a judgment in such matters – even dealing with serious deviations from normal accepted standards – was an episode which would soon be forgotten.

Section 3 conflicted with the basic tenets of our democratic regime. Its dangers could not be overstated. Today, the court's judgments in matters of religion would be nullified by legislation. Perhaps, tomorrow there would be a similar coalition agreement relating to other matters.

Justice Goldberg had declined to invalidate section 3 since the court itself was involved, and the public could lose confidence in the court as a result. In his view, said Justice Orr, that ground was unacceptable. It was pointed out in the cases of Barzilai and Ressler (H.C.428 and 910/86, *Selected Judgments* [supra] Vol. VI, p.1; and *The Jerusalem Post Law Reports*, p. 60), a tenet of the US Supreme Court: "We have no more to decline the exercise of jurisdiction which is given than to usurp that which is not given."

Moreover, the public would be left without any resort. There was no other body to resolve such disputes and uphold the rule of law.

Justice Goldberg also relied on the Knesset not to act in terms of section 3, and Justice Cheshin supported that view. Justice Orr said he did not know the source of his colleagues' optimism. In his opinion, the agreement, including section 3, was to be regarded with the utmost seriousness. Indeed, the Labor Party's counsel had assured the court that his client had every intention of honoring its commitment.

He proposed, therefore, that the petitions be allowed, and section 3 of the agreement be set aside.

IN THE result, therefore, and by majority decision, the petitions were dismissed, with no order as to costs.

Appearing for the petitioners were Eliad Shraga, Ido Shapira, Avi Abramovitz, Yeshayahu Schneller; Alon Diskin, Richard Bardenstein, Haim Misgav, Amnon Ben-Dror, Liron Friedland, Uri Regev and Rahel Benziman. Appearing for the state were Osnat Mandel, senior assistant state attorney, and for the Labor Party Amnon Lorch.

The reasons for judgment were handed down on February 3, 1995.

(Second of two parts)

Correction: Due to an editing error, a sentence in last week's Law Report was incorrect. It should have read: "Nevertheless, the court held, for example in the cases of Shalit and Zarazevsky ..., that coalition agreements were justiciable."

Refugees – humanitarian problem, environmental danger

EARTHLY CONCERNS

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

THE displacement of people is a humanitarian problem of global proportions. Sickness, overcrowding and even starvation afflict refugees.

It might seem insensitive to mention the environmental problems caused by refugees and the homeless. But the displacement of large numbers of people inevitably leads to depletion of natural resources and destruction of ecosystems. These persist long after the immediate needs of the displaced have been met.

Today, there are at least 18 million displaced persons worldwide, with more every day.

Asia accounts for 7m. of these refugees, 6m. of whom fled Afghanistan. Africa is the second largest area of displacement, with 5.2m. The collapse of governments in Yugoslavia and the former USSR added another 3.6m. people eking out an existence away from their homelands; Latin America and North America each contribute about 1m.

Besides armed conflicts, other pressures are building up that will eventually swell the already massive tide of refugees. In Africa, 45 percent of the total population is under 15; in Iraq, Iran and Syria, 47-49% percent are under that age; and in Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua the figure is over 45%.

Without education, jobs, homes or health care, these people survive by exhausting resources, even farmland.

So far no one seems to have an answer to this problem. For relief agencies, it's like drying a river with a sponge. However, even as the problem becomes more critical, it fails to top the agenda of the most powerful governments.

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Sunday March 12 — **THEOLOGICAL SITES IN JERUSALEM**
Staking a claim in the city holy to Judaism, Christianity and Islam has been accepted practice for centuries. Led by experts, we'll visit a score of sites, explore the history, meet the residents and examine the connection between architecture, theology and the religious establishment.
Tour guides: Yuval Zameret (Islamic Studies, Hebrew U.), **Kimi Kaplan** (Jewish Thought, Hebrew U.), **Dr. Idan Yaron** (Monastic Life, Academy of Sciences).
Price: NIS 135

Monday March 27 — **THE JORDANIAN BORDER OF PEACE**
Led by **Ori Dvir**, author of the best-selling Nekudot Chen, we'll see history in the making. We'll tour the border region now the center of cooperative efforts, the Sheik Hussein Bridge - bombed in '46 and now rebuilt, Tirat Zvi, Kfar Ruppin, Gaon Hayarden, Kikar Hayarden, Habitranot, the observation post of Hamat Gader - meeting place of the borders of Israel, Jordan and Syria, the confluence of the Yarmuk and Jordan rivers and more, much more.
Price: NIS 135

Wednesday April 5 — **THE WINE ROUTE**
The ideal tour for the disciples of Bacchus. We'll study the history of wine, compare ancient and modern techniques and sample a few bottles along the way. Accompanied by a vintner, we'll start at Zichron Ya'akov, visit a country winery at Mitzpe Narashim, see the wine presses on Mt. Meron and for lunch we'll partake of a sumptuous dairy meal at Ein Kamonim, famous for its goats and the ten cheeses they produce, country bread, fresh salad, yogurt and of course, wine.
Tour Guide: David Eitam.
Price: NIS 150

Sunday April 16 — **THE NABATEANS**
They lived in the desert from the 4th century BCE, they fought the Hellenistic kings and the kings of the Hasmoneans. They ruled the desert, controlled the trade routes and built the cities of Petra, Avdat, Shivta and Mamshit, and in the end were defeated by the Romans. We'll learn about them, study their agriculture and traditions, visit Avdat, their largest city, rebuilt by the Romans and by the Byzantines, and Mamshit - the city of Kurnub.
Tour Guide: Archeologist Avner Goren.
Price: NIS 145

Wednesday May 10 — **IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JOSEPHUS FLAVIUS**
The battle at Yodfat was terrifying. The Jews didn't stand a chance. They chose to die rather than fall into Roman hands. All except one, their leader Yosef Ben Mattityahu, now known as Josephus Flavius. Did he desert his people or did he find another way to serve them, as a historian? We'll visit Yodfat, scene of the battle, now a prosperous Galilee moshav, Zippori - the seat of the Sanhedrin in Talmudic times and home of Judah Hanassi, codifier of the Mishna, the city whose beautiful mosaics and impressive antiquities have been revealed by archeologists. We'll lunch at Kibbutz Hanaton.
Tour Guide: Archeologist Motti Aviam.
Price: NIS 145

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THE JERUSALEM POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

8 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1995

'Central bank to demand dismissal of Hapoalim's Arad branch manager'

NEIL COHEN

THE Bank of Israel will almost certainly demand the dismissal of the manager of Bank Hapoalim's Arad branch and the tightening of its management supervision procedures, a source close to the investigation in Arad told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

The Bank of Israel sent a team to Arad to investigate the branch after allegations made in the press and the Knesset that the manager induced clients to take on huge amounts of credit to buy stocks and mutual funds when the stock market was rising strongly in 1993, and the suicide, attributed to his debts, of an Arad resident.

Bank Hapoalim was the most aggressive of the major banks in advancing credit for the purchase of securities.

Based on the investigating team's preliminary findings, "the situation does not look good," the source said.

"The bank seems somehow to have been cut off from the state of Israel, operating in some kind of Wild West," the source said. "Ridiculous things were done." The source emphasized that the findings were only preliminary but the manager's dismissal and central bank demands for significant tightening at Bank Hapoalim nonetheless seemed inevitable.

Bank Hapoalim spokesman Kalman Schiff said the bank received a preliminary report from the central bank on Friday but had not yet had a chance to fully digest it.

He refused to comment on the possibility that the Bank of Israel might seek or impose sanctions against the branch manager.

He added that Hapoalim conducted its own internal audit in the Arad branch, but for technical reasons senior bank management had not yet been able to discuss its findings.

He said Hapoalim has in any event acted to tighten its internal controls and will take further steps if they are needed.

Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles refused to confirm or deny the findings of the investigating team.

Abeles is understood to be generally investigating the phenomenon of lending for the purchase of securities.

Restraining order issued against Israel Shipyards sale to SKO Car

RACHEL NEIMAN

ADMIRAL Shipping and Investment yesterday received a restraining order delaying tomorrow's Knesset Finance Committee debate on the sale of Israel Shipyards to the SKO Car group until a March 12 hearing on the issue.

Admiral filed the petition in the Tel Aviv District Court against the Knesset Finance Committee, the Privatization Committee and the Government Companies Authority.

The Admiral group's Shlomo Wachnish said the tender was not conducted in a fair manner.

"Admiral won the second tender, where it was understood that whoever made the highest bid would win," he said. "We offered $9.5 million – twice as much as SKO Car."

Admiral is requesting the Government Companies Authority "either reverse the procedure or recognize our rights in the second," Wachnish said.

Haifa Histadrut members held a mass meeting calling for a general regional workers strike on Tuesday in solidarity with Israel Shipyards workers.

Haifa Histadrut head Baruch Zeltz said the strike would be delayed due to the restraining order, but union heads would continue their preparations – including a protest opposite the Knesset on the day the sale is discussed.

In the meantime, Israel Shipyards workers will continue working as usual, the Histadrut said.

Industrial production increases 7% in '94

JOSE ROSENFELD

INDUSTRIAL production rose seven percent last year, after rising 6.5% in 1993, the Central Bureau of Statistics said yesterday.

During the first half of 1994, industrial production jumped at an annual rate of 8.5%, moderating in the second half to 5.5%.

Industrial production rose in every industry, except for the production of transportation vehicles, which fell 8%.

Clothing, wood and wood products, rubber and plastic and basic metals experienced a sharp 12% to 15% productivity rise.

Food, textiles, leather and leather products, chemicals, non-ferrous minerals – which are used for the production of building materials – metal products and machines increased between 7% and 10%.

There were more moderate productivity gains in electric and electronic equipment of 6%, while mining and quarrying, paper and paper goods, and publishing and printing rose between 4% and 5%.

The number of industrial workers increased 4.5% to 390,000, including workers hired through manpower agencies. Industrial labor input, which is measured in actual work hours, jumped 6%.

Clal Israel in advanced talks with Accor to invest $35m. for establishing hotel firm

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

CLAL Israel and Accor, one of the largest tourism companies in the world, are in advanced negotiations to invest $35 million in the establishment of a hotel property and management company, Clal Israel announced to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday.

Clal said its share in the venture with the French-based Accor will be about equal.

According to the announcement, Clal and Accor plan to set up two companies – a property firm to invest in hotels and a hotel-management company. The hotels will be situated in popular tourism resorts like Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Tiberias and the Dead Sea.

Clal said the venture is in the framework of its strategic plans to enter the local tourism field in partnership with a world leader in the sector.

The company said it has examined the local hotel and tourism market for more than a year, during which it rejected a number of offers to purchase medium-sized hotel firms.

Accor's 1993 turnover was $5.5 billion. The company manages 2,300 hotels in 130 countries, 1,200 of which are owned by Accor.

Among Accor's hotels are the Novotel, Mercure, IBIS, Formula 1 and Sofitel. Accor also has a 50% share in Carlson Wagonlit Travel, one of the world's largest travel agencies, and in Europcar, a rent-a-car company.

Clal said this venture would be the agreement of this kind between a leading international chain and an Israeli company.

Shlomo Price, Clal Israel's deputy general manager of economics and control, will head the holding company's tourism and recreation division.
manager of economics and control, will head the holding company's tourism and recreation division.

Peled: IEC's master plan not on hold

RACHEL NEIMAN

ISRAEL Electric Corporation managing director Rafi Peled yesterday denied recent press reports that the company's master economic plan has been put on hold.

Speaking to the company's board of directors, he said the plan would go ahead as scheduled this year.

The main goals in the plan are to lower overall costs by creating competition between various IEC divisions and to increase efficiency.

Peled said upgrading the nation's infrastructure would cost some $1 billion per year until the end of the century.

Trade Bank posts NIS 193,000 in net losses

COMPANY RESULTS

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TRADE Bank announced it lost NIS 193,000 last year, compared with a NIS 1.5 million net profit in 1993.

The bank ended the fourth quarter with a NIS 81,000 net profit, compared with a NIS 459,000 net profit during the same period in 1993.

Profit from financing activities before provision for doubtful debts fell 29 percent last year to NIS 4.67m.

The drop was blamed on the continued erosion in financial margins in the unlinked shekel sector.

Provisions for doubtful debts fell 38% to NIS 363,000.

Total operating and other income increased 18% to NIS 6.65m.

Management attributed the rise to the increase in commission income from securities transaction and the Maof market.

The rise in income was partly offset by a 29% rise in operating expenses to NIS 10.9m. from NIS 8.5m.

Management blamed part of the increase on the growth in the bank's activities.

• **Bank Poalei Agudat Israel**, a subsidiary of First International Bank, completed the year with a net profit of NIS 6.5m., up 7% from the previous year.

Annualized net return on equity fell to 13.7% from 14.7% in 1993.

A key factor contributing to the rise in profits was a 0.7% increase in profit from financing activities before provision for doubtful debts to NIS 21.9m.

Other key factors include an 18.4% decrease in provisions for doubtful debt to NIS 2.2m.

Operating expenses fell 6.5% to NIS 28.6m. from NIS 30.6m.

The drop was mainly due to a decrease in salaries and related expenses to NIS 14.8m. from NIS 15.3m.

The rise in profits was partly offset by a 9.4% drop in operating income to NIS 22.1m. from NIS 24.4m.

• **Bank Massad**, a subsidiary of Bank Hapoalim, ended the year with a rise in net profit to NIS 13.1m. from NIS 7.57m. in 1993.

The profits include gains of NIS 2.3m. resulting from realization of an asset.

Annualized net return on equity rose to 22.7%.

The bank's total assets increased 22% last year to NIS 1 billion from NIS 893m. in 1993. Credit to the public rose 15% to NIS 419.6m.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Amitai asks Africa Israel directors to pay for apartments: Amitai - Citizens for Good Government, has sent a letter to Africa-Israel Investment directors and its manager demanding they pay the full price for the apartments they purchased at a discount from Africa Israel. The letters were sent to general manager Shlomo Grofman, former chairman Moshe Sanbar, and director Gad Propper. The directors purchased apartments from Africa Israel at a four percent discount.

In the letter Amitai said, "we are turning to you to urge you, to fulfil your public obligations and pay the full price for the apartment purchased, including linkage from the date the apartment was acquired to the payment date." In the letter, Amitai said the directors are obliged to pay the full price for the apartments since Africa Israel is a public company.

Lapidot has won a NIS 1.1m. contract to search for water at the Dead Sea. Lapidot will drill to a depth of 300 meters, with the goal of finding water to provide to industries in the region.

RAD Data Communications will exhibit the first algorithmic voice compression product at Cebit, Europe's foremost computer exhibition. The product can carry up to 13 separate conversations on one line at a rate of 64,000 bits per second.

Three companies buy into Hobar: Zeller Eblagon, Capitol and Lamont have bought 10 percent of Hobar (Israel). Lamont has purchased 4% of Hobar, importers of Lavazza espresso machines and operators of the "Trocadero" games arcades, while the other two partners have purchased 3% each.

Hobar owns a subsidiary KB, which imports jukebox and kiddie rides, as well as being a partner in Marmolite, a manufacturer of sugarless foods. Hobar, which has declared intentions to go public in 1995, has reported an annual 1994 sales turnover of NIS 10m.

Open phone line for job-seeking immigrants: The Israel Chambers of Commerce will hold an open phone line today through Friday to help find jobs for new immigrants. The progam will be held in cooperation with the Joint Distribution Committee Israel, the Absorption Ministry and the municipal absorption authorities of Tel Aviv, Beersheba, Jerusalem and Haifa. For information, call the Chambers of Commerce at 03-563 1010.

Ajac Mazal has received an extension on its permit to the Esther 4 site.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (27.2.95)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	5.250	5.500	6.000
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.750	5.125	5.875
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.625	3.750	4.500
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	2.625	2.875	3.500
Yen (10 million yen)	0.750	0.625	0.875

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (24.2.95)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.3740	3.4210	—	—	3.4000
U.S. dollar	2.9882	3.0101	2.91	3.05	2.9930
German mark	2.0228	2.0512	1.98	2.08	2.0356
Pound sterling	4.7209	4.7876	4.62	4.84	4.7596
French franc	0.5765	0.5851	0.56	0.59	0.5812
Japanese yen (100)	3.0568	3.1000	3.00	3.14	3.0880
Dutch florin	1.7925	1.8249	1.76	1.85	1.8154
Swiss franc	2.3708	2.4042	2.32	2.44	2.3906
Swedish krona	0.4091	0.4148	0.40	0.42	0.4118
Norwegian krone	0.4577	0.4641	0.45	0.47	0.4616
Danish krone	0.5101	0.5173	0.50	0.52	0.5144
Finnish mark	0.6544	0.6636	0.64	0.67	0.6606
Canadian dollar	2.1288	2.1589	2.09	2.19	2.1474
Australian dollar	2.1929	2.2239	2.15	2.26	2.2111
S. African rand	0.8249	0.8365	0.75	0.84	0.8333
Belgian franc (10)	0.9809	0.9947	0.96	1.01	0.9880
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8687	2.9092	2.81	2.95	2.8923
Italian lira (1000)	1.8255	1.8512	1.78	1.89	1.8393
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.17	4.43	4.2052
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.85	0.90	0.9578
ECU	3.7788	3.8322	—	—	3.8063
Irish punt	4.6886	4.7548	4.58	4.86	4.7297
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3004	2.3329	2.23	2.39	2.3141

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

PRIME פריים Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date:	23.2.95
Purchase Price:	97.86
Redemption Price:	96.40

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TARGET (מטרה) טרגט Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date:	23.2.95
Purchase Price:	132.77
Redemption Price:	130.65

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US dollar	NIS 2.9930	--.--%
Sterling	NIS 4.7596	--.--%
Mark	NIS 2.0356	--.--%

Disney eyes 42nd Street as site of $300m. complex

LOS ANGELES (Reuter) – Walt Disney wants to make New York's 42nd Street a place for good, clean fun.

Walt Disney Co. and Tishman Realty want to build a $300 million entertainment complex on 42nd Street, a Disney executive said.

The proposed complex, part of the revitalization of New York's tawdry Times Square area, would include a hotel, vacation time-share units, and entertainment venues.

It is one of several submitted by developers for the site.

David Malmuth, vice president of Disney Development Co., said that Disney would put up about $40m. of the estimated $300m. development cost.

Disney already has proposed to renovate the New Amsterdam Theater on 42nd St. to showcase its musical productions, such as *Beauty and the Beast.*

Its cost is slightly more than $29m., although Disney has not made a final commitment to the project.

In the entertainment complex, New York-based Tishman would own the hotel and the retail space, while Disney would own the vacation units and have the potential to be the lead tenant in the retail space.

The retail space might include a family-oriented sports club, similar to a sports bar but more appealing to families and non-sports fans, Malmuth said.

If approved, the complex would mark the first time that Burbank, California-based Disney had offered vacation time-shares in a city.

The company currently offers time-share units at Walt Disney World in Florida and is also building a vacation complex on the southern California coast, about 40 kilometers from Disneyland.

"It's pioneering, and we don't really know yet if it's feasible," Malmuth said of the New York project.

Malmuth said the project was proposed by Tishman realty, which has done business with Disney for the past 20 years.

The proposal is just one of several that will be reviewed over the next two months by city and state officials, who will then select one and seek to negotiate a deal.

TWA offers creditors vouchers for discounts

NEW YORK (Reuter) – Financially-troubled Trans World Airlines Inc. said over the weekend it will offer vouchers for airfare discounts to some of its creditors as part of a new plan aimed at keeping the carrier out of bankruptcy.

In a related development, Chief Financial Officer Robert Peiser said in an interview that the St. Louis-based airline no longer faces a cash shortage during the critical winter season.

"We feel comfortable that the cash position at the company [is at a point] where the winter will pass us by without any significant cash shortfall," Peiser said.

The airline, which had feared it would run into a cash shortfall in February and March, had $100.9 million in cash at the end of January, Peiser said.

The complex debt restructuring plan filed Friday with the Securities and Exchange Commission calls for holders of the airline's eight percent notes to receive airline ticket vouchers valued between $30 million and $50m.

"We think that this is a good way of bridging some of the gaps. It is not as painful to us," Peiser said.

TWA first proposed a debt-for-equity swap in October and has revised the plans several times as it continues to negotiate with its creditors. The airline, burdened by financial difficulties since it emerged from bankruptcy in late 1993, has said it would be forced to file for bankruptcy if creditors do not support the plan.

In addition to the vouchers, TWA is offering its 8% bondholders preferred stock yielding 12%, equity rights and common stock. Representatives of the 8% bondholders could not be reached for comment on the proposal.

Under the plan, holders of 10% notes would receive new 12% notes, equity rights and common stock.

Although TWA last month reached an agreement in principle with a key group of 10% bondholders, Peiser said some problems with the pact developed on Thursday.

He did not elaborate on those problems, but said he did not consider them to be serious. Holders of the 10% bonds could not be reached for comments.

Despite the brighter cash outlook, the new debt restructuring plan filed Friday with the Securities and Exchange Commission, said preliminary data indicate TWA posted an operating loss of $137.4m. in 1994.

The 1994 loss, which narrowed by $143.9m. from the 1993 level, excludes non-recurring charges of $119.7m.

Over the past few months, TWA has won concessions from its workers and reached agreements with lessors in an effort to firm up its precarious financial situation. Workers own 45% of the airline and creditors own the remaining 55%.

Capital, reserves at Baring Bros. wiped out

LONDON (Reuter) – When London bankers left their trading desks on Friday evening, the reputation of Baring Brothers, bankers to the Queen and one of the City's most profitable investment banks, was still riding high.

Only a privileged few at the top of the City's oldest and most respected bank knew the devastating truth: a disastrous series of Far East deals in the complex "derivative markets" had wiped out its capital and reserves.

The head of the Bank of England supervisory division Brian Quinn had already secretly put together an emergency team that worked through the weekend – often under the personal supervision of Bank governor Eddie George – to mount a rescue.

Whether the name Barings survives or not, bankers say losses of perhaps £400 million mean the investment bank founded in 1762 is now almost certain to be broken up or subsumed into one or more big European or US banking groups.

With 4,000 employees around the world, half of them in London, Barings was – until the debacle, which struck with alarming suddenness – at the height of its reputation.

Barings enjoyed the ultimate hallmark of being blue-blooded bankers to the Queen and had been a power in Britain for two centuries, financing the nation's war chest for the early 19th century Napoleonic Wars with France.

According to rankings provided by the respected financial group Extel, Barings equities research was rated only 20th in the City of London.

But that belies its strength in the Far East and emerging markets, where it was one of the leading firms.

An independent bank owned by its senior managers and a charity foundation, Barings had posted record half-year profits of £55m. last October.

The bank is chaired by Peter Baring, of the family that founded the bank.

Bonuses earned by one of its top investment bankers, Christopher Heath, in the 1980s were legendary.

He became Britain's top paid banker, earning £2.5m. in 1986 but was spectacularly sacked in 1993 after relations at the top of the bank became strained.

That caused concern at the London headquarters of the bank's Barings Securities group that it may have lost the spark that had turned it from a tiny broker into one of the leading names in the Far East.

Ironically, it is in the Far East where Barings has become unstuck.

One Singapore-based trader appears to have done the damage single-handedly through a series of speculative deals.

There had also been rumors recently that the bank may have suffered losses after the plunge of the Mexican peso.

April gold finishes week $2.80 lower

COMMODITIES REPORT

APRIL gold ended the week down $2.80 on Friday, closing at $378.20 an ounce in heavy volume.

It managed a slight recovery from an early sell-off that followed the morning over-the-counter options expiry.

Given the continued weakness in the dollar, traders said gold would begin to go higher. But some analysts predict this metal would remain range-bound and on the defensive.

Comex silver tumbled on Friday in heavy volume, in sympathy with gold's options-related sell off, with March futures closing down 17.6 cents at $4.627 an ounce.

Comex copper futures ended higher, with March closing up 0.40 cent at 132.75 cents a pound.

Traders noted a decline in LME stocks, although these declines were somewhat offset by rising work-in-progress inventories.

CBOT corn futures ended lower on Friday, led by a technical slip in new-crop December, traders said.

Thursday's USDA's weekly export report had little effect on corn.

March futures closed down 1/4 at $2.33-1/4 per bushel.

Signs of consolidation amid low volume caused CBOT wheat to close narrowly mixed on Friday, with March futures up 1/4 to end at $3.61-3/4 per bushel. Unseasonably warm weather in the US winter wheat belt is causing some wheat in the southern plains to break dormancy, which would expose this crop to damage caused by a possible early spring freeze.

CBOT March soybeans ended 1/2 cent higher to close at $5.58 per bushel on Friday amid talk that China was buying vegetable oil and Russia was purchasing Argentine sun oil. Beans are struggling amid signs of a record South American soy crop this year.

NYCE March cotton futures hit a high of $1.00 per pound, pushed by speculator buying.

This price level has not been seen since the US Civil War, and many traders are wary of this commodities ability to sustain these levels.

CSCE Arabica coffee ended sharply higher as Brazil announced a policy of selling low grade coffee only after their internal market prices show a substantial increase and hold that level for at least 10 days.

Increasing tightness in Robusta supplies, as well as dry weather conditions in Central America, were also a focus on the market. May futures gained 4.95 cents to close at 174.55.

CSCE May cocoa futures gained $15 to close at $1,461 a tonne, moved mainly by technical trading.

Price fixing and manufacturer profit-taking kept prices below May's technical resistance level of $1,480, traders said.

Courtesy of Mike Zwebner, Commstock Trading Ltd.

APPOINTMENTS

Eli Shoval of Kibbutz Yotvata has begun his tenure as general manager of Yotvata dairies. Shoval replaces Nir Yinon, who served four years in the position. Shoval plans to expand Yotvata's product line in the coming year, with a special emphasis on flavored milk drinks. The company will continue to develop new flavors and will release a range of low-fat and low-sugar products.

Yotvata reported $120,000 in exports of finished products for 1994 and an annual sales turnover of NIS 90m. The company processed some 23.5 million liters of raw milk in 1994, 3.1% more than in 1993. A significant rise of 10% was noted in pudding sales, 6.7% in milk and chocolate milk and 5.5% in cheeses.

Nachum Kalishov has been nominated division head of Netcom's technical support branch. Kalishov previously served as a division head at Scitex, Eldor and Dupont (Germany).

Howard Rose, formerly with Commstock and previously with Shearson Lehman, has opened Clark Addison Securities which will service clients investing in foreign securities and commodities markets.

Uzi Levy has been appointed product and services development manager at Bezek Ya'acov Salomon has been appointed divisional national business manager. Shlomo Chapnik has been appointed divisional administration manager.

Yossi Strugo has been appointed marketing manager of Ben and Jerry's. Strugo, a business administration graduate, was previously marketing manager at Ma'ariv publications. Arik Weiss has been appointed chain operations manager.

Moshe Avraham will serve as general manager of Tadistar, part of Tadiran Consumer Goods. Tadistar owns 10 retail outlets for goods manufactured or imported by Tadiran.

Fabio Kahan has been chosen to head the Lancia and Alfa divisions of the Fiat/ Lancia/Alfa group in Israel.

Rachel Neiman

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	%chg
FradnW2	770	19.6
General	6005	2.0
IndDevDD		
IndDvPrD		
MenC	185.60	
OHH	126206	
Trade	602	
TradeC	154.50	

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	%chg
Adanim	237080	5.2
Carmel	533	1.5
CarmC3	257	1.6
DevMB	14744	
FirstMB	37201	
IndepMB	30068	
J lemC	125.00	
JlemBnk	221	1.4
LeumiMBR	41419	
MishkanC		
Mizirw	5379	2.2
TafahotR	154220	3.0

Financial Institutions

Name	Price	%chg
Shiton	6493	3.5

Insurance

Name	Price	%chg
Isnatilw1	591	8.8
Ararat	1719	
Ayalon	539	0.2
AyalonC		
Eltan	317	
EltanC1	193.50	
Hadar1	761	0.3
Hadar5	735	
HamshmrC	187.50	
Hamshmr1	1106	
Hamshmr5	1106	-1.8
Menorah1	808	-1.5
Menorah5	747	
Phoenix1	1762	-0.5
Phoenix5	1645	
Sahar	534	-2.0
Zion5	10218	-0.5

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
hashmira	245	0.4
kishaeu	714	-3.0
Baran	1534	-1.0
BezekW2	97.50	2.6
BodWhC1	130.00	
BodWhC2	124.00	
BondWhm L	2484	
Citzg0.1	30321	-1.5
Clal Comp	9187	
ClalCmpC	151.00	
CorBeach	1255	-2.0
Crystal	1550	-1.5
DanHotl1	1512	
DCL	573	
DCLW	43.90	2.6
Elad	110.00	
Feldman	97.50	2.6
GanHadar	216	
GanHadC	201	1.0
GlkegG2	182.00	
GrantC1	103.00	0.5
GrantW2	85.00	7.6
HGIC1	129.50	
HGIW1	85.00	
HGI1	291	
Intgama1	2518	
Intgama5	2387	
Liraz	948	-0.2
MaB	1163	-1.5
Mediech	382	
MedtechW	438	-1.8
MLLC1	156.50	
MLL1	309	3.0
Rapac	1500	2.2
Reshef	79.50	
ReshefC1	112.50	0.9
Team	2102	
TeamC1	158.50	
Telaya	939	
Topline	290	-3.3
Yaad	571	-0.2
YaadC1	112.00	0.4
Yaana	1594	-4.0
Yada1	1074	7.0
Yona	344	

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
ashotashk	144.00	-0.3
electracp	1717	3.0
imco	297	
solog	421	
wilgar	135.50	
yehodeaa	371	
AckersC	107.50	
Aliance	904	
Alony	262	
Alumit11L	7638	
Angel	8700	-1.3
Argaman	350	-0.3
Aryt	324	-0.3
AryiC1	64.00	0.8
Ashply	1300	
Ashplyc1	167.00	-0.9
Ashtrom	332	
Atzmon	279	0.4
AtzmonW1	129.50	
Azimuth	373	0.5
Belmon	472	
BoulosC1	184.50	0.3
CablesC3	128.50	1.2
CablesW3	245	-9.9
Caroline	491	0.6
Cargal	782	
Cestro	1101	
Cham	493	
CldStrC	213	0.5
CldStr0.1	1747	-3.0
Clnd C8	159.50	1.6
Cyclone1	7686	6.0
Cyclone5	4413	
CyclonC1	153.50	
CyclonC2	104.00	
Dalronci	174.00	
Dalron1	1679	3.8
Decason	365	9.9
Degem1	1471	4.0
Delta 1	1399	-4.8
Delta3	1486	-0.3
DubekB	7341	
DubekR	7415	
EagleC		
EagleC2	45.00	
EagleW3	36.90	
Eagle1	92.00	
Edgar	197.00	
EdgarC2	127.50	
EldanTec	50.50	1.0
EltraW1	3937	3.5
Elcolnd	4192	
Elctrncs	724	1.0
Elcr 0.5	7699	0.2
ElectrG4	258	
ElseC	238	2.6
EsndRbtc	272	
Evrot	206	
Fertlz5	1395	1.2
Fertl0.1	1506	0.5
FeuchtW1	7423	2.0
Five J	380	5.6
FrutarC1	202	
FrutarC2		
GiborC1	70.00	
GiborSab	334	6.0
GiborW2	286	10.9
Golan	803	-0.2
Hamashl1	918	5.3
Hashoh1	252	
Hashoh5	124.50	2.0
Hod	212	3.4
Holit	110.00	
IsrCan1	2912	2.0
Jal-ora	819	
Kedmany1	175.00	
Kedem	5098	9.0
KedemC2	174.00	
Keter	535	0.9
KitanC1	134.00	
Kill	2088	2.0
Klls	2010	1.8
Lipsk	1933	
Lodzia1	1388	
Lodzia4	1203	1.0
LuhotGal	135.00	5.1
MacPal	229	-3.4
Magam	360	
Maxima1	1054	0.5
Maxima5	862	-0.8
Mei Eden	967	-0.5
Modgal	672	
Mozaica1	241	-2.0
Mozaica5	201	0.5
NegCeram	289	
Nahushl1	675	5.3
Nehusht5	508	0.6
Naviot	1029	
Nisa1	1308	
NMC	347	
Ofis	717	-1.8
Ophir	190.00	
Oran1	260	
Ortra	322	
PackerW2	4254	-9.3
Pargod	1191	-9.0
PazChen	409	0.3
Pika	681	
PolgatA	287	-0.3
PolgatC1	176.50	0.6
Polygon	601	
PolygonC	149.50	
PCB	604	7.3
Rabintex	281	
RabintxW	69.00	-2.1
Sanikoll	330	0.3
Sano1	1183	0.5
Sano5	1125	0.5
Selen	343	-0.9
Shemen	8698	2.0
Specmx	340	0.6
Steel	200	4.4
Sunfrost	4484	-0.2
Taal	29685	10.0
Tadiran	623	-1.0
Tambour	540	
Tadea	958	0.2
TevaC		
Tiv	522	-0.6
Tobacs1	351	
Topper	140.00	
TATC1	175.50	-1.7
TAT1	524	2.3
Unibar1	1583	
Unibar5	605	
Vitalgo1	431	
Vulcan	215	
VulcanC	163.00	0.3
Wardinon	18324	2.0
WardinW3	9204	4.0
YtongC2	308	0.7
Zahavi	171.50	0.3
Zika1	1978	0.5
Zika5	1470	
Zikit1	3618	-1.5
Zikit5	3448	-0.5
ZionCab1	864	
Zoharind	358	0.3

Property, Building & Agriculture

Name	Price	%chg
jacolehr	137.00	5.4
raved	242	2.5
tzarian	234	
waltson	58926	-0.3
y.stang	145.00	0.3
Alrov	1257	1.0
Arazim	195.00	
Arazim C1	163.00	-0.6
Ariadan1	1039	1.3
Assis	1174	
AssisC4	136.00	0.4
AssisW2	234	
Assuta	1112	
AssutaC1	221	
AzorprC1	254	1.6
AzorProp	498	-2.0
Barano1	814	1.3
Baysides	23100	-1.0
BaysidC1	23537	
BenYaKar	1941	-3.2
BenYaKrW1	499	10.4
BenYharC	75.50	
BlogRes	2332	-2.0
Contrctr	1075	
DanKner	1212	
DanKnerC	169.50	-0.3
Daram	188.50	
Dunbar	3573	0.5
DunbarCw	219	
Engel	247	-0.4
Goldrlous	288	-0.3
GldHousC	188.50	
Ispro	2845	
Isralom	1545	-0.3
IsralomC	189	
IsrasC1	193.50	9.9
Isras0.5	4557	-0.2
Isras1	4866	-0.2
ICP5	18280	
Jaysour1	154.50	
Jordan	352	-3.0
LaznkC1	68.50	-2.1
Laznck	150.00	
Lifshiz5	156.00	
Lumir1	2683	0.7
MalibuC2	110.50	-0.5
Malibu1	550	0.9
MerLazC2	66.00	10.0
MerLazW3	103.50	-5.5
Mnrav	5908	5.5
Meshnael	241	
MTM	2051	
NaotAviv	1260	0.5
PnOr	5639	-1.0
RedSea	454	1.8
Rogovin1L	991	0.5
Rogovin5	1048	8.5
Rotem	400	
Shaked	303	
Tashluz	443	-4.7

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
taya	683	-3.0
Ackers1	685	
Ackers2	612	0.3
AfrisrC	336	-2.0
Ampa	86795	1.5
Arad	3705	
Azr aC2	180.00	
ClalW3	347	
Clal50	8321	
DanbarC	200	-1.0
Danbar1	1847	-0.3
Ellem	2546	
Emeh	168.50	-0.3
ExportC4	187.50	1.1
Hilan	333	1.2
HilanW4	182.00	
Hiron5	7016	
Iscal	935	
IDLC5	183.00	
JoelC1	155.00	1.3
JoelC1A	157.50	
Kardan1	296	6.1
Kital	281	
Magor1	1574	
Magor5	1545	0.3
Moledt	487	0.5
OcifC1	121.50	0.4
OcifW1	2030	
Ofer	8638	
Pama0 1	1000	5.3
Rim1	372	-2.6
Rim4	271	-4.6
SaharDev	1878	-0.5
Securts	1736	
SecurtsC	113.00	0.9
SecurtsW	305	5.2
SAPANHASP	776	
TayaC	241	1.3
TzurC1	169.50	
TzurShm	74.00	
Unico	4594	0.2

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
MGN1	5730	
MGN5	3494	

PARALLEL LIST

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
alnertd	411	-1.0
arida	704	-0.6
gihak	320	-9.9
lidcins.	138.00	-2.1
isabarts	225	
mivtahsha	641	-1.3
mtvsys	2353	1.2
redseent6	318	-1.9
tkn	400	-7.2
AtlanW1	279	8.6
Comtec	808	1.0
Dalin1	2.40	
Danel	1060	2.0
Data	1023	
Elezch	362	
Greenbrg	405	-3.1
ILDCHOT	277	-1.4
Kind	153.00	5.5
Kopel	248	0.4
KopelC1	158.50	-0.8
MCPK	337	-2.3
Nrup1	441	-0.7
Regency Ho	100.00	
TrendLin	1243	-0.5

Property, Building

Name	Price	%chg
a.dori	107.00	6.4
alonihetz	62.00	
grandctr	86.00	
pandor	588	
Adler	228	-0.9
Bar—Ton1	1894	
Caesrea1	3204	
Denly	789	
Gazit	419	2.9
GazitW1	219	
GzurC1	272	
Lazmich	104.00	
Lwnstn1	896	
Melisron	610	-1.9
Oz	165.00	1.2
Rassco	1493	
Scandia	122.00	-4.7
ScandiaC	101.00	-2.9
UnicomG1	145.00	
Unicom1	108.50	
Unicom5	104.00	
UnicorW3	27.40	-22.4

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
aboodisgn	62.00	-3.1
kadoorisgn	226	-3.0
lipman	1256	
maamvhid	857	
naco	1285	-4.7
phyton	206	2.6
reichart	1606	
techem	468	-0.4
lotnauer	475	2.8
viemtrix	81.00	
zinmetal	1104	-3.0
Adumim1	278	7.3
Baruch1	1887	
Baruch5	628	
Brosh1	237	
Dexter	1633	
Eitam	175.50	-1.1
Gali	178.00	
King1	614	1.0
Lahish1	2402	-10.0
ManC1	137.50	0.4
Man1	182.00	-9.9
MLT	1139	
Neca	35681	
NecaG1	212	1.4
Ohollab	753	-0.5
Orazit	149.00	
OrazitC	90.00	
OrdaPrnt	887	10.1
Pollak1	329	2.5
Shladot	106.50	0.6
Tastie	762	1.5

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
darban1	1423	
Idar	500	
marathon	64.00	2.4
Asen	1015	8.0
Binyan	60456	7.3
Haman	1337	-0.2
Mirage	108.00	
Optima	144.00	
Regent1	325	
Yissum	86.00	2.4

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
DIKOEx1	2806	-4.0
Naphtha	31.60	

Two-sided trading

	AFTERNOON			MORNING		
Name	Price	% Change	Volume Shares	Price	% Change	Volume Shares
buildipr	323			323		3000
nacional	714	7.0	22000	722	8.2	20488
Abjac	20.0	5.2	280000	19.6	3.2	184024
Ackerlin	237	-0.2		237	-0.4	42850
Afris 0.	253041	1.5	35	253864	1.8	105
Afrisr	235267	0.5	55	234097		58
Agan	3563	1.5	30800	3510		
Agis	1596	1.7	9000	1585	1.0	11647
Avner	5.6	10.0		5.6	9.8	
Azorim	3283	0.2	1600	3275		8433
ALPM	12753	1.5	700	12722	1.2	2833
Bezek	465	1.7	294000	467	2.2	81281
Boulo	172.5	7.7		172.5	7.8	27381
Cables	1384	1.7	20000	1370	0.7	20983
Clal Ele	22853	2.2	1300	22909	2.5	1363
Clal Tra	643	0.7	3600	638		2010
Clal 10	6234		5400	6234		8969
Clalins	894			894		21821
Cldstr 5	1779		800	1779		2522
Clnds	1429	2.7	81900	1447	4.0	50159
CohenDev	509	3.5	5000	507	3.0	11609
CoOp	1136		1500	1136		16588
Danbar 5	1474	-3.0	1600	1474	-3.0	14205
Dead Sea	707	3.5	70000	710	4.0	35067
Delek	8085	2.0	6300	8124	2.5	1007
Discnv	16900	2.0	5120	16900	2.0	3078
Elbit	17093	-0.7	6960	17222		4612
Elco	8425	4.0	4860	8425	4.0	5555
Elite 5	1294	0.5	11000	1288		28452
Elron	8847	3.0	4140	8847	3.0	5403
Evergr n	1872			1872		6563
Export	1071	2.2	2800	1073	2.5	8694
FeuchtW5	5192	-1.0	2700	5192	-1.0	7224
Fibi	37213	2.5	2485	36940	1.7	741
Formula	993	3.0	4800	966	0.2	700
Frstint1	32853	0.7	320	32608		372
Frstint5	30165	0.5	405	30090	0.2	361
Frutarom	999		1500	999		16735
Gahelet	5093	1.0	300	5056	0.3	445
Grant	461	0.7	15000	458		4006
Hapoalm	383	2.5	178500	380	1.6	162682
Hapolm	6601	4.7	3200	6444	2.3	8012
IndBldg	325	2.5	124000	323	1.9	44043
IndDevBK	23602	5.0	130	23546	4.8	673
Isramco	6.0	2.5	3960000	6.1	3.4	4456828
IsrCorp1	21949	2.2	3010	22056	2.7	463
IsrCorp5	20252	1.0	140	20151	0.5	281
IsChem	225	2.2	408000	225	2.3	187045
IDB	864	2.5	91500	862	2.3	83619
IDBDev	5090	2.2	8100	5102	2.5	6946
ILDC	976	0.7	61500	976	0.7	37817
JEC	784	1.5	82500	780	1.0	14399
JOEL	80.5	0.5	228000	80.0		394637
Kardan5	267	5.2	18000	267	5.1	17272
Ktan	943	-1.7	13500	943	-1.8	7574
Koor	18848	3.5	15260	18868	2.5	15094
Leumi	309	2.2	319500	310	2.6	78234
Lifshiz1	252	2.7	6000	246	0.4	8742
Makhtesh	1385	1.0	23000	1371		
Malibu5	509	-2.2		508	-2.3	5490
Maman	630	1.0	12000	629	0.8	38699
Marit1	1850	7.5	9000	1876	9.0	9018
Mashov	252	-1.0	38500	255		32793
Mehadrin	13301	1.2	840	13334	1.5	491
MeirEzra	2252	9.2	21600	2257	9.5	6341
Mishkan	28137	-0.2	220	28137	-0.3	300
Mivtah	1049	-0.2		1049	-0.3	8731
Multlock	878	3.0	1600	882	3.5	3000
NatolIDS	15.9	8.2	1500000	15.8	7.5	1558909
Ocif	6621	0.2	1100	6604		806
Ormat	629	0.5	22000	626		56089
Osem	1883	5.0	9600	1901	6.0	1686
PazoilEx	62.0		20000	62.0		102338
Pecker	7681	0.2	750	7682		3444
Paridas	1754	1.5	700	1754	1.5	7188
Petrcham	1336	1.0	22800	1323	0.8	4981
Piryon	8862	0.7	1800	8796		1468
PolgatB	288	1.0	4000	288	1.1	30468
Poseidon	84.0	4.0	30000	84.0	4.1	
Rogosin	1036	3.2	4400	1036	3.3	17670
Secom	275	0.2		275	0.4	89576
SelaPump	100.0	2.7	169000	99.5	2.1	205719
SupersB	4461	1.7	2700	4450	1.5	4786
TelahotB	157091	1.7	99	157477	2.0	96
Tempo1	1210	1.0	4600	1207	0.8	14900
Teva	76924	3.2	1450	77111	3.5	401
Tibnveal	420	4.5	5500	419	4.2	14096
TAT5	269			269		18385
Urdan 0.	406	3.0	28000	397	0.8	8665
Yiong	747		4000	747		44390

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Frenkel's insistence on no rate cuts dampens rally

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO

Two-Sided index	Maof index	Karam index
151.98 +1.94%	151.95 +2.21%	127.93 +0.31%

TRADING was overshadowed yesterday by the government meeting in Jerusalem which was due to discuss the developments on the capital market.

Investors were comforted by the news, despite the generally poor management by the government of anything connected to the capital market.

Investors particularly noticed that Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frankel was invited to participate in the discussion.

This was interpreted as meaning the government would "convince" Frenkel to lower interest rates, but it did not happen. Frenkel said in no uncertain terms that interest rates would not come down in March.

This dampened investors' enthusiasm and prices weakened during the last hour and a half of trading, particularly on the Maof options market.

The Two-Sided Index rose 1.9 percent, the Maof 2.2% and the Karam 0.3%. Total turnover was NIS 70.2 million, to which the Karam market contributed the grand sum of NIS 21m.

Investors' eyes remain glued to the bond market, and particularly to what is occurring to the provident funds. It is becoming clear that the wave of selling has yet to hit that market.

This month there have been NIS 1 billion in redemptions, as much as during all of 1994. The funds must prepare the money by March 12, and many wonder what they will sell to raise the cash.

Current wisdom has it that they will sell bonds, if only because they cannot dump NIS 1b. in shares and expect there to be a share market.

The central bank has announced it will buy NIS 250m. in bonds to support prices. This goes against the main thrust of its monetary policy, which is trying to reduce liquidity on the market.

Add to this that the central bank is effectively preventing the revaluation of the shekel following huge sales of foreign currency by the business sector, and we have a major feat – namely implementing a restrictive monetary policy at a time when the developments on the capital market are forcing the central bank to open the monetary taps.

One must expect the Bank of Israel to take steps to reduce liquidity in the economy. The first target is likely to be the monetary tenders, whether to the banks or the public.

The bond market reacted favorably to the news of the government meeting. Since it closed in the morning, it did not have time to react to the decision considered disappointing, not to raise interest rates.

The overall bond index rose 0.1% and index-linked bonds 0.15%. The sharpest rises were in the 2-5 years series, which rose 0.27% on average.

Compared to the provident funds situation, the share market is kids stuff. The rises which were felt nonetheless affected all sectors of the share market.

Price beats Norman as S Africa wins Dunhill

JOHANNESBURG (Reuter) – World No. 1 Nick Price produced a gritty final-hole win over second-ranked Greg Norman to lead Southern Africa to a tense 14-11 match play win over Australasia in the inaugural Alfred Dunhill Challenge on Sunday.

Vital though Price's victory was, it was unsung South African Hendrik Burhmann, one of captain Gary Player's wild card choices, who clinched the winning half point against Michael Clayton despite bogeys on the last two holes to finish all square. Burhmann had led by three holes with three to play.

Needing just 3½ points from yesterday's nine singles matches in the Ryder Cup-style event, Player put out his strongest players first in an attempt to clinch victory early.

David Frost continued his extraordinary putting of the first two days with six birdies in 13 holes to thrash Wayne Grady 6 and 5. But Norman and Price could hardly be separated in the second match.

Price went one up three times but each time Norman leveled as the two heavyweights of world golf reveled in head-to-head combat.

But Norman made the fateful error on the 18th when he pulled his drive into thick rough and Price's solid par four was good enough to give him the match and a vital point. Ironically, Norman shot 70 to Price's 71.

When Mark McNulty maintained his 100 percent record with a 3 and 1 victory over determined New Zealander Frank Nobilo, Southern Africa was assured of at least a tie with 12½ points out of a possible 25.

Ernie Els, playing in the fourth match, was unable to clinch victory on one of his "favorite courses in the world" when Fijian Vijay Singh applied relentless pressure for a brilliant 3 and 1 win on the 17th.

Lucas Parsons out-gunned big hitting Retief Goosen in the next match before Burhmann, clearly feeling the pressure and seemingly unaware that he had already clinched the winning half point, lost all sense of rhythm before limping home to the sight of grateful team-mates.

In the remaining matches Michael Campbell defeated Wayne Westner by one hole, Fulton Allem chipped in on 18 for a half with Greg Turner and Tony Johnstone halved with Robert Allenby.



OLD GOLFERS NEVER DIE – Bob Murphy of the US team reacts after chipping onto the 13th green in the Chrysler Cup.(AP)

Chrysler Cup

Tom Weiskopf and Jim Albus combined for the day's best score, a 7-under-par 65, pacing a four-match sweep by the US seniors on Saturday over the International team in Acapulco.

The US built a 6½-1½ lead after two rounds and needs to win only two of yesterday's eight singles matches to clinch its eighth title in 10 years.

Weiskopf and Albus beat Bob Charles and Graham Marsh by four strokes under the better-ball format in use on Saturday.

In other matches, Jim Dent and Bob Murphy shot a 66 for a one-shot victory over the International's Tony Jacklin and Tommy Horton; Gibby Gilbert and George Archer shot 66 in a four-stroke victory over Simon Hobday and Harold Henning, and Jim Colbert and Tom Wargo edged Bruce Crampton and Antonio Garrido by a shot, shooting a 67.

Herzliya KOs Maccabi TA

Holon defeats Hapoel Jerusalem in other State Cup semifinal

JOEL GORDIN

SENSATION struck Yad Eliyahu last night in the second semifinal of the basketball State Cup as Bnei Herzliya defeated Maccabi Tel Aviv 107-93 after trailing 47-39 at halftime. It is the first time Maccabi Tel Aviv, the current league champions and Cup holders, have been beaten at Yad Eliyahu this year by a local team.

In the first game, Hapoel Holon beat Hapoel Jerusalem 88-64 to advance to the finals on March 23.

The first half of the main game started off exactly like the Maccabi-Herzliya league game a week ago, when Maccabi won by 20 points (95-75). Maccabi played a fast, running game, with playmakers Guy Goodes and Yisrael Elimelech getting the ball out fast to Radisav Curcic and Norris Coleman, both in hot shooting form.

Herzliya also moved well with the ball, but had much less shooting success (40 percent compared to Maccabi's 60). Maccabi was also dominant under the boards in the early going, taking 19 rebounds to Herzliya's six.

Maccabi deservedly led by more than 10 points for most of the first half and went down to the locker room 47-39 ahead

The first minutes of the second half were a see-saw affair. Maccabi up by 10, Herzliya cutting the lead to four, then Maccabi back up to 11 as the current holders looked like they were in complete control.

And then it happened. The man behind the overthrow was the much-maligned Koren Amisha, himself a former Maccabi player. Amisha, who has not a successful season, sprung into the attack and simply ran rings around Guy Goodes as well as the rest of the Maccabi defense. He found willing helpers in John Hudson, Paul Thompson and Amir Katz who rose to the occasion and put every assist which came their way into the net.

Herzliya first took a hesitant two-three point lead, and then shot ahead to 84-73 with five minutes to go. Maccabi coach Muli Kazurin called a time-out and told his players to relax and slow the pace.

But to no avail. The Maccabeans went into a complete panic and during a five-minute spell Herzliya outscored them 30-9. Curcic fouled out trying to defend Thompson. Goodes, outrun by Amisha, was replaced by Yisrael Elimelech who fared no better. Norris Coleman and Nadav Henefeld? they simply were not in the game. Only Motti Daniel kept trying, but he could not hold the line alone. In the final two minutes, Maccabi vainly tried to stop Herzliya with fouls, but Amisha, Katz, Thomson and Hudson stubbornly refused to miss.

For Herzliya, Hudson scored 26, Thompson 22, Amisha and Katz 19 apiece. For Maccabi, Curcic sank 25, Doron Jamchee 20, Daniel 18 and Coleman 15.

Hapoel Holon 88, Hapoel Jerusalem 64

Most fans had expected a close, tough game and were unprepared for the one-sided, 24-point walkover. Holon was less red-hot than Jerusalem was ice-cold. Capital hoopster Billy Thompson (22 points) was fair, but was closely defended by an excellent Tomer Steinhauer.

Jerusalem's Radenko Dovrosh and Hubert Roberts both had nights to forget. Roberts' 1-for-8 from the foul line tells his sad story. That left only John Dalzell and Roy Ayal, both reasonable shooters from the outside. However, their match-ups, Doron Shefa and Adi Gordon made sure they were never alone outside the paint.

Holon kept ahead by five/six points until just before the break when they rushed ahead to a halftime lead, 41-29. After that, there was only one team in the game which ended with an amazing shooting performance by veteran Mike Carter – four three-pointers in succession out of four attempts. Holon's highest scorer was Steinhauer (18). Adi Gordon scored 17 and Doron Shefa 16.

Clippers whip crosstown rivals

LOS ANGELES (AP) – Loy Vaught scored 27 points and the host Los Angeles Clippers snuffed out a late rally by the Lakers to beat their crosstown rivals 83-81 Saturday night and end a four-game losing streak.

The Clippers have beaten the Lakers in four of their last seven meetings, but are 19-70 against the rest of the NBA during that span. The victory was their 10th of the season, preventing them from tying Philadelphia's record-low nine wins in 1972-73.

The Clippers are 25½ games behind the Lakers in the Pacific Division standings with two months still remaining, after finishing just six games behind them last season. But two of their victories have come at the Lakers' expense – including a 25-point romp on December 9 at the Forum.

Bullets 102, Kings 98

Chris Webber's alley-oop with 9.6 seconds left broke a 98-98 tie and helped host Washington snap a six-game losing streak.

After Webber's dunk, Mitch Richmond fouled Scott Skiles, and Skiles hit a pair of free throws with 3.8 seconds remaining for the Bullets' final points.

Webber led the Bullets with 25 points, and Juwan Howard added 18. Richmond's 32 points paced Sacramento.

Cavaliers 105, Nets 102

Danny Ferry sank the go-ahead 3-pointer with 13 seconds left and scored a career-high 24 points as Cleveland Cavaliers rallied to win at home.

The Cavs won for the fifth time in six games overall and completed a four-game season sweep of the Nets.

Chris Morris scored a season-high 31, including 23 in the first half, to lead New Jersey. Jayson Williams had a career-high 20 points.

Tony Campbell scored a season-high 23 for Cleveland, which played without ailing starters John Williams (flu), Tyrone Hill (broken finger) and Bobby Phills (sore shoulder).

Rockets 112, Warriors 105

Hakeem Olajuwon had 38 points and 15 rebounds and Sam Cassell added a career-high 16 assists as Houston notched a homecourt victory.

Cassell, who finished with 13 points, keyed Houston's fourth quarter, hitting three 3-pointers as the Rockets held off the Warriors.

Latrell Sprewell had 30 points and Tim Hardaway 24 for Golden State. Ricky Pierce came off the bench to add 18.

The Warriors trailed by 106-103 with 2:40 left as Sprewell hit a 3-pointer, but Houston's defense took charge, forcing a 24-second violation and a turnover on Golden State's next two possessions.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS:
Washington 102, Sacramento 98
Cleveland 105, New Jersey 102
Houston 112, Golden State 105
LA Clippers 83, LA Lakers 81

Connecticut wins final home game

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

THE University of Connecticut won its final home game of the season, defeating Seton Hall on Saturday night 75-61.

UConn (22-2, 15-1 in the Big East) was led by forward Donny Marshall, who scored 26 points. Doron Sheffer did not start for the first time this year but scored 11 points off the bench. The sophomore guard had sprained an ankle Tuesday night against Boston College.

The No. 4 Huskies completed their home schedule with a 14-1 record. They play tonight at Providence.

Boxer fights for life after blood clot operation

LONDON (AP) – Gerald McClellan's boxing career ended yesterday when the 27-year-old American fighter lay in critical condition in a London hospital on life support after having a blood clot removed from his brain.

McClellan was floored twice in the 10th round Saturday night by Nigel Benn's punching power in a sometimes brutal World Boxing Council super-middleweight fight.

Benn was treated briefly at the same hospital for exhaustion.

Local golf

STEVE WEIL

HAROLD Stutzen, Solly Friedman, Eli Gitlin and Dov Zinn scored 89 stableford points in this weekend's alliance 2 best ball competition.

In second place with an inferior back nine were Jules Pollak, Uri Aylon, Hanoch Reichenberg and Hanan Eshel. Third with 87 points were Chuck Shaikowitz, Aviva Dankner, Clive Josset and Basil Kaufman.

In Coca Cola League action, Haifa leads with 18 points after the fourth round. Ra'anana-Kfar Sava is in second with 14 followed by Netanya with 13.

Kaufman leads the A division of the Grand Prize Competition after two rounds with 77 points. Richard Fogelson and Doron Ruttert trail with 75 points each.

Krajicek beats Stich in Eurocard Open

STUTTGART (AP) – Richard Krajicek squandered a two-set lead and three match points before upsetting Michael Stich in five sets to win the Eurocard Open yesterday.

Just when it began to look like Stich would end up stealing the victory, Krajicek pulled his game together again and won 7-6(7-4), 6-3, 6-7(6-8), 1-6, 6-3 in three hours.

"It was pretty rough to have three match points and then be 2-2 20 minutes later. I should have finished him off in three. But I put up a good fight in the fifth," said the Dutchman, who had 23 aces to end the week with 92.

Krajicek, 23, thus avenged a bitter five-set loss to Stich in the final of the same event in 1993, when an umpire's error delivered the victory to Stich.

This time, there was no controversy, only inconsistent play by both men.

The victory earned unseeded Krajicek $395,000, while Stich, the fifth seed, had to settle for $208,000. The $2.25-million event is one of the most lucrative on the IBM/ATP Tour.

With his eighth career victory, Krajicek also collected 496 points and he will move five spots higher to No. 11 in the world when the new computer rankings come out today. Stich will either remain No. 9 or drop one spot.

Stich, who trounced top-seeded Boris Becker 6-0, 6-3 in Saturday's semifinals, was unable to hold his momentum.

Krajicek reached the finals by beating Martin Damm of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-3.

"He gave it away in the fourth, but I had been trying to catch up with him for three sets, it was very tough mentally and I ran out of steam," Stich said.

The match was decided in the seventh game of the final set. Stich saved three break points and wasted three game points before finally surrendering his serve.

Krajicek, up one break, served to love in the next game and broke the German again, converting his fourth match point with a powerful forehand return down the line.

"He started to serve well again and I couldn't get my first serve in," Stich said of the fifth set.

Stich will get his opportunity for revenge when the Netherlands and Germany meet in the second round of the Davis Cup next month in Utrecht.

Aussies win Centenary Series

AUCKLAND (AP) – Australia scored a comprehensive six-wicket victory over New Zealand at Eden Park yesterday to win the Centenary Series limited-overs cricket tournament.

Spin duo Shane Warne and Tim May set up the victory by reducing New Zealand to 137 for nine in its 50 overs.

Australia collected the required runs with 18.5 overs to spare, skipper Mark Taylor (44) and Mark Waugh (46) setting the stage with a 78-run second-wicket stand realized off just 90 balls.

Australia totaled 138 for four wickets with David Boon clinching the victory when he flicked a Chris Pringle delivery for three runs through mid-wicket. Boon was left unbeaten on 24.

Waugh hurried the victory charge by smashing his 46 runs off 47 balls, including eight boundaries – three of them from one Shane Thomson over.

The win here gave the Australians their third straight one-day tournament victory. The Aussies won a three-nation series in Pakistan and then the World Series tournament at home last month.

Taylor shrugged off his run of low scores in the series, anchoring the innings until he wandered down the pitch to Justin Vaughan and was stumped in the 26th over.

Taylor hit six boundaries in his 75-ball innings.

New Zealand managed the early wicket of Greg Blewett in the fourth over but watched in dismay as Taylor and Waugh piled up runs to ruin the Kiwis' centenary celebration in front of a 21,000 crowd.

SCOREBOARD

BRITISH SOCCER – Simon Barker stuffed in the tying goal with three minutes to play yesterday to give relegation candidate Queens Park Rangers a 1-1 draw with Nottingham Forest in the Premier League.
NHL – Saturday's results: Washington 3, New Jersey 3; Buffalo 3, Hartford 1; Boston 1, Quebec 1; NY Islanders 3, Pittsburgh 1; Florida 4, Ottawa 1; Philadelphia 7, Montreal 0; Toronto 5, Winnipeg 2; St. Louis 3, Detroit 2; Los Angeles 4, Edmonton 3.

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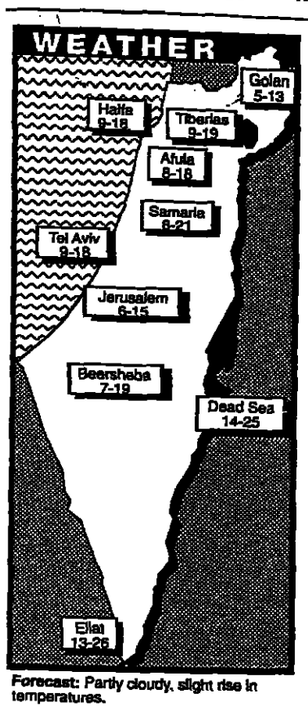
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WEATHER



Forecast: Partly cloudy, slight rise in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	01	34	06	43	rain
Berlin	00	32	06	43	rain
Buenos Aires	15	59	27	81	cloudy
Cairo	10	50	23	73	clear
Chicago	-02	29	08	47	rain
Copenhagen	00	32	01	34	cloudy
Frankfurt	03	37	06	43	rain
Geneva	02	36	06	43	rain
Helsinki	-03	27	02	36	cloudy
Hong Kong	13	55	14	57	rain
Jo'burg	15	59	30	86	p/cloudy
Lisbon	10	50	14	57	rain
London	03	37	08	46	clear
Los Angeles	14	57	18	66	cloudy
Madrid	03	37	13	55	cloudy
Montreal	-24	-11	-13	09	clear
Moscow	01	34	05	41	rain
New York	-06	21	04	40	rain
Paris	06	43	07	45	p/cloudy
Rome	11	52	17	63	clear
Stockholm	-02	28	03	37	cloudy

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TEL AVIV

Museums

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Conrad Felixmuller: His Dresden Years, exploration of the work of a German Expressionist artist◇Keith Haring◇16th-19th Cent. European Art◇Impressionism, Post-Impressionism◇The School of Paris◇The Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.◇Sculpture◇20th cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll.◇Israeli Art - A Historic Presentation◇From New Horizons Onward. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Asim Abu-Shakra◇The Cactus Motif in Israeli Art, 1910-1990. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. **Art Education Center,** Tel. 6919155/6/7. **ORT.** To visit our technological High Schools, call Jerusalem 513141; Tel Aviv 5203222, 5203293; Netanya 823744.

WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Rina Pharm, 31 David Yellin, 383788; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shusfat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.

Tel Aviv: Shlomo Hamelech, 78 Shlomo Hamelech, 524-6461; Kupat Holim Clalit, 7-9 Amsterdam, 52302383. Till a.m. Tuesday: Ben-Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 5223535. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 6413730.

Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Hadarim, Yoseftal, Kfar Sava, 952520.

Netanya: Kupat Holim Clalit (till midnight) 8 Raziel, 603549; (after midnight) 31 Brodetzky, 628121.

Krayot area: Merkaz Menahem, 92 Sd. Yerushalayim, Kiryat Yam Alef, 759441.

Haifa: Derech Hayam, 209 Derech Hayam, 371472.

Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.

Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics; ENT); Misgav Ladach (obstetrics); Bikur Holim (pediatrics); Shaare Zedek (ophthalmology). In case of attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.

Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery).

Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	**100**
FIRE	**102**
FIRST AID	**101**

Magen David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 551333	Karmiel* 988555
Ashkelon-551332	Kfar Sava* 902222
Bat Yam* 5511111	Kiron 9311111
Beersheba* 274767	K. Shmona* 944334
Beit Shemesh 523133	Naharlya* 912333
Dan Region* 5793333	Netanya* 623333
Eilat* 372333	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Hadera* 08-623333	Rehovot* 461333
Haifa* 512233	Rishon* 9642333
Hatzor* 920333	Safed 920333
Holon* 5511111	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Jerusalem* 523133	Tiberias* 790111

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110

Eran — Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 6961113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 9988770, Kfar Sava 974555, Hadera 346789.

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-650506 (also in Amharic).

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234818, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 514455, Haifa 660111, Eilat 31977.

The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-529205, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

ENGLISH LECTURE

HELEN KAYE

DID you know that our forefathers derived colors from insects, plants and even snails? Four lectures by Prof. Zvi Koren on *Colors from Nature in the Ancient Middle East* inaugurates a new series for English speakers. The lectures explore the natural colors, dyes and textiles used in the area and include a tour of the Edelstein Center dyestuff collection in Ramat Gan. The series starts March 8. Info: 03-641-5244.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THE Israel Philharmonic Orchestra is back home after a highly successful US tour. It performs tonight through Wednesday at the Haifa Auditorium under the baton of Kurt Masur, the IPO's honorary guest conductor. He will lead the orchestra in the seventh symphonies of two composers, Bruckner and Schnittke, the latter an IPO premiere. Also at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv Thursday through Sunday. All at 8:30 except Friday at 2.

Today (5) at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem, the Voice of Music chamber music concert features Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra principles Noam Buchman (flute), Irit (cello) and Richard (viola) Assayas, and guitarist Doron Solomon, performing music by Schubert, Roussel and Villa Lobos. Admission is free.

TELEVISION

PENNY STARR

PRIME Time on Mondays has settled into a routine – *Comedy Store* at 9:15 followed by *Gov Night* at 9:45 on Channel 2; *Popolitica* on Channel 1 at 9; *Mad About You* and *Madman of the People* at 10:05 and 10:35 on Channel 3. But daytime viewing is pretty good too. Start at 10 with motherly Batya Barak hosting *Morning Talk*, in which professionals in the fields of psychology, education and society discuss social and family issues for half an hour on Channel 1.

Over on Channel 3 you can have a lunchtime laugh with *Hanging with Mr. Cooper* at 1:20 p.m. Then at 3 zap to Star Plus, to Australia where the folks from Summer Bay continue their soap-opera lives in *Home and Away*.



Rob Morrow stars as a congressional investigator in 'Quiz Show.' (Barry Wetcher)

FILMS

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★★ **QUIZ SHOW** – Anyone who's seen the movie's poster or lived through the 1950s in America knows that the game show *Twenty-One* was rigged. Robert Redford's finely nuanced film follows the rise and fall of several of the key players involved in this scandal. Appropriately enough for a film about false fronts, *Quiz Show* is full of characters whose stereotypical appearances hide their more complex identities. The most notable among these are Charles Van Doren, a dashing young Columbia University literature teacher who was heir to a formidable intellectual legacy, and Herbie Stempel, a working-class Jewish nerd from Queens. Perhaps the most admirable aspect of this admirable movie is its firm refusal to reduce these individuals to easy essences. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.)

CINEMA

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE Citizen Kane 7 ★ Newsfront 9:30 G.G. GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 788448 Disclosure•The River Wild•Nell 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Shawshank Redemption•Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ Milk Money•The Browning Version 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ Widow's Peak 9:30 ★ Junior 4:30, 7 JERUSALEM THEATER The Essence of Green Papaya 7, 9:30 ★ Rouge 7, 9:30 ORION Barcelona•L'accompagnatrice•The Real McCoy•Strens 5, 7:30, 9:30 ★ Natural Born Killers 5, 7:15, 9:15 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot Trial By Jury•Only You 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Terminal Velocity 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Quiz Show 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Legends of the Fall 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 RON 1-2 ☎ 234704 1 Rabbi Akiva St. Legends of the Fall 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ Sh'chur 5, 7:30, 9:45 SEMADAR The Snapper 7, 9

TEL AVIV
CINEMATHEQUE Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown 7 ★ The King of Comedy 10 ★ The Essence of Green Papaya 5, 7:30, 9:45 DIZENGOFF 1-3 ☎ 200485 Dizengoff Center Into the West 5:15, 7:30 ★ Reservoir Dogs 11 a.m., 1, 3, 9:45 ★ Burnt by the Sun 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:15, 7 ★ True Romance 9:45 ★ Exotica 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 DRIVE IN The Real McCoy 10 ★ Sex Film 12 midnight GAN HA'IR Priscilla 5, 7:30, 9:45 GAT Quiz Show 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 GORDON The Woman Who Made Sesame Oil 6, 8 ★ The Diary of Nani Moretti 10 HAKOUNOA ZOA HOUSE ☎ 6958341 26 Ibn Gabirol St. Klka 7:30, 9:45 G.G. HOD 1-4 ☎ 5228090 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. Forrest Gump 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ Junior•Priscilla 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10 ★ Widow's Peak 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10 LEV 1-4 ☎ 5288288 Shawshank Redemption 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ Lifetimes 12, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Naked 1:30, 5:45 ★ The Browning Version 11:30 a.m., 3:45, 8, 10 ★ Sh'chur 11:30 a.m., 3:15, 5:15, 8, 10 RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Center Legends of the Fall 2, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Terminal Velocity 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 1:15, 4:15, 7, 9:45 ★ Only You 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Trial by Jury 5, 7:30, 9:45 RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674 Opera House Pulp Fiction 4:15, 7, 9:45 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral•Serial Mom 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (English dialogue)•The Road to Welville 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue)•Nightmare Before Christmas 5 G.G. SHAHAF 1-2 Forrest Gump 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ Nell 5, 7:30, 10 G.G. TAYELET 1-3 ☎ 5177952 2 Yona Hanavi St. Natural Born Killers 5, 7:30, 10 ★ The River Wild 5, 7:15 ★ Lemon Coffee 5, 7:30, 10 G.G. TEL AVIV ☎ 5281161 65 Pinsker St. The River Wild 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Milk Money 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Disclosure 5, 7:15, 10 TEL AVIV MUSEUM ☎ 6961297 27 Shaul Hamelekh Boulevard The Snapper 5, 7:45, 10 ZAFON Rouge 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Bleu 7:30 ★ Blanc 5

HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎ 325755 Exotica 7:15, 9:15 ★ Little Snapper 7:15 ★ Natural Born Killers 9:15 ATZMON 1-5 ☎ 673003 Nell•Disclosure•The River Wild•Milk Money•Sh'chur 4:30, 7, 9:15 CINEMA CAFÉ MORIAH ☎ 242477 Lifetimes 7:15, 9:30 CINEMATHEQUE Nosferatu the Vampyre 7 ★ The Woman in the Dunes 9:30 ORLY Shawshank Redemption 6:30, 9:15 PANORAMA 1-3 ☎ 382020 Forrest Gump 4:15, 6:45, 9:30 ★ The Browning Version 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ Widow's Peak 7, 9:30 ★ Junior 4:30 RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 674311 Terminal Velocity 7, 9:15 ★ Legends of the Fall 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 416899/8 Pulp Fiction 4, 6:30, 9:30 ★ Shawshank Redemption 6:30, 9:15 ★ Trial by Jury•Terminal Velocity 4:45, 7, 9:15 ★ Quiz Show•Legends of the Fall 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 ★ Only You 4:45, 7, 9:15 RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 246553 Quiz Show 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 ★ Trial by Jury 4:45, 7, 9:15 ★ Pulp Fiction 6:30, 9:15 ★ Baby's Day Out 4:30

ARAD
STAR Forrest Gump 7, 9:45 ★ Sh'chur 9:45 ★ Nell 7:15, 9:45 ★ Junior 7:15

ASHDOD
G.G. GIL Milk Money•Sh'chur 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ Junior 4:30 ★ Disclosure 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 7, 9:45 ★ Nell 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Terminal Velocity 4:30, 7

ASHKELON
G.G. GIL Sh'chur•Nell•Milk Money 4:45, 7, 9:45 ★ Disclosure 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 7, 9:45 ★ Junior 4:45 ★ The River Wild 4:45, 7 RAV CHEN 1-5 ☎ 711223 Trial By Jury•Terminal Velocity 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Quiz Show 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Tales of the Fall 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎ 5531077 Pulp Fiction 7, 9:45 ★ Shawshank Redemption 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Terminal Velocity 5, 7:30 9:45 ★ Milk Money 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Trial By Jury 7:30, 9:45 ★ Quiz Show 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Legends of the Fall 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Junior 5

BEERSHEBA
G.G. GIL Junior 4:30 ★ Sh'chur•Milk Money•Nell 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 7:15, 10 RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎ 235278 Trial by Jury 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Quiz Show 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Legends of the Fall 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

DIMONA
MOFET Sh'chur 8

HADERA
LEV 1-4 ☎ Shawshank Redemption•Forrest Gump 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Only You•Sh'chur 4:30, 7:30, 9:45

HERZLIYA
COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN) ☎ 6902666 Forrest Gump 7:30, 10:15 ★ Only You 7:30, 10 STAR ☎ 589068 29 Sokolov St. Milk Money 7:30, 9:45 ★ Nell 7:30, 9:45 ★ Legends of the Fall 7:15, 9:45

KARMIEL
CINEMA 1-3 ☎ 887277 The River Wild•Trial By Jury•Quiz Show 7, 9:30

KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL Forrest Gump 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ Junior 4:45 ★ Shawshank Redemption•Legends of the Fall 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ Nell 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Terminal Velocity 4:45 ★ Disclosure 7:15, 9:45 ★ Milk Money 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 7, 10

KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. KIRYON 1-9 ☎ 779166 Junior•The River Wild•Nell•Milk Money 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ Forrest Gump 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ The Mask•Angels 4:45 ★ The Lion King 4:45 ★ Lifetimes 7, 9:30 ★ Disclosure 7, 9:30 ★ Sh'chur 4:45, 7, 9:30

KIRYAT MALACHI
HAKIRYA Forrest Gump 8:30 MOFET The River Wild 7:15, 9:30

LOD
STAR Only You 7:15, 9:30 ★ The River Wild 9:30 ★ Terminal Velocity 7:15, 9:30

NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 404729 Junior 4:45 ★ Nell•Milk Money 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 7:15, 10 ★ The River Wild 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 628452 Forrest Gump•Shawshank Redemption 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ Junior 4:45 ★ Milk Money•Nell 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Sh'chur 7:15, 9:45 RAV-CHEN 1-4 ☎ 618570 Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Terminal Velocity 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Legends of the Fall 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Quiz Show 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL Forrest Gump 7, 9:45 ★ Terminal Velocity•The River Wild•Sh'chur 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Junior 4:45

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. HECHAL 1-3 ☎ 9300844 Milk Money 5, 7:15 ★ Legends of a Fall 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ Nell 5, 7:15, 9:45 G. G. RAM 1-3 ☎ 9340818 Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ Sh'chur•Disclosure 5, 7:15, 9:45

RA'ANANA
PARK Lifetimes 5, 7:30 ★ Milk Money 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Pulp Fiction 9:45 ★ Shawshank Redemption 7:30, 10 ★ Legends of the Fall 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Nell 5, 7:30, 10

RAMAT GAN
RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 797121 Trial by Jury 7:30, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ The River Wild 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Quiz Show 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Junior 5 RAV-OASIS 1-3 ☎ 6730687 Milk Money•Terminal Velocity 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Legends of the Fall 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

RAMAT HASHARON
KOKHAV ☎ 5491979 Four Weddings and a Funeral 7, 9:30

REHOVOT
CHEN 1-4 ☎ 465979 Pulp Fiction•Shawshank Redemption 7, 9:45 ★ Sh'chur 7:30, 9:45 ★ Legends of the Fall 7, 9:45

RISHON LEZION
HAZAHAV Pulp Fiction 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ Junior 4:45, 7:15 ★ Shawshank Redemption 4:15, 7, 9:45 ★ Widow's Peak 9:45 RAV CHEN Terminal Velocity 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Quiz Show 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Legends of the Fall 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

RISHON NEW IND. AREA
GAL 1-5 ☎ 9619669 The River Wild•Terminal Velocity•Milk Money 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ Disclosure 4:45, 7, 9:45 STAR 1-4 ☎ 9619985-7 27 Lishinsky St. Priscilla 9:45 ★ Lifetimes 7 ★ Sh'chur 7:15, 9:45 ★ Nell 7:15, 9:45 ★ Legends of the Fall 7:15, 9:45

UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL Terminal Velocity•Coffee Lemon•Sh'chur•Forrest Gump•Milk Money•Nell 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ Disclosure 7, 9:30 ★ Junior 4:45

° Tone phone reservations 03-5252244
All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

TELEVISION

■ CHANNEL 1
6:30 News **6:45** Cartoon **7:00** Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV
8:00 Series of talks on Jewish mysticism **8:30** Reading **8:50** Science **9:05** Nature **9:25** Rehov Sumsum **10:00** Morning Talk – Batya Barak hosts professionals in the fields of psychology, education and society **10:30** Science and Technology **11:00** English: Seven in Heaven **11:20** World History **12:00** French – Avec Plaisir **12:15** Natural Science **12:40** Geography – the planet Earth **12:50** Society **13:30** Cartoon **14:00** Pretty Butterfly **14:30** High-school basketball championships

■ CHANNEL 1
17:00 A New Evening **17:35** Animals and Smiles – quiz show **18:00** Dangermouse – cartoon **18:15** News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Sports magazine **19:00** News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 Film magazine **20:00** Mabat **21:00** Popolitica **22:10** Between the Lines **23:00** Backtrack – Ehud Manor hosts artists **23:30** News magazine

■ CHANNEL 2
14:00 Australian wildlife **14:30** Letters and Numbers – quiz show **15:00** Disney Time **16:00** The Bold and the Beautiful **17:00** Reshet at Five **17:30** Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **18:00** Double Dare – children's game show **18:30** Dr. Quinn – Medicine Woman **19:30** Lingo – game show **20:00** News **20:30** America's Funniest People – regular people impersonate their pets and celebrities in song and dance **20:45** Suits Me – dating show **21:15** Comedy Store **21:45** Gov Night – entertainment with Gidi Gov **23:00** The X-Files **00:00** News **00:05** Herman's Head **00:30** Poirot **01:20** Israeli music at the Tel Aviv Logos pub (rpt)

■ JORDAN TV
19:30 Ramadan in the World **19:45** Documentary: Magazine Zero One **20:00** Alf **20:30** Street Hawk – police drama **21:10** By Way of the Stars **22.00** News in English **22:20** Bombardier – part 2 **00:00** Brewster's Millions (1945) – comedy about a minor league baseball player who stands to inherit millions if he can fulfill all the provisions of a crazy will. Starring Richard Pryor and John Candy (79 mins)

■ MIDDLE EAST TV
14:00 The 700 Club **14:55** Film: The Big Wheel (1949) – Despite his father's fatal accident, a young man decides to follow in his footsteps and become a race-car driver. Starring Mickey Rooneyand Spring Bylngton (92 mins) **16:30** Mighty Mouse **16:55** Jonny Quest **17:20** Dangermouse **17:45** Superbook II **18:10** Documentary **19:10** Rescue 911/48 Hours **20:00** World News Tonight **20:30** CNN Headline News **21:00** The Cosby Show **21:30** Lois and Clark: The new adventures of Superman **22:20** Time Trax **23:10** 700 Club **00:00** Special Programs

CABLE

■ FAMILY CHANNEL (3)
8:00 Local broadcast **9:00** One Life to Live **9:45** The Young and the Restless **10:30** Guests in the Living Room **11:00** I Love Lucy **11:25** Celeste **12:10** Neighbors **12:35** Falcon Crest **13:20** Hanging with Mr Cooper **13:45** Israeli Clips **14:00** Cagney and Lacey **14:50** Roxanne **15:40** Knots Landing **16:30** Neighbors **16:55** Love Boat **17:45** Israeli Clips **18:00** One Life to Live **18:45** The Young and the Restless **19:30** Local broadcast **20:00** Celeste **20:50** Falcon Crest **21:40** Cheers **22:05** Mad About You **22:30** Madman of the People **22:55** ENG **23:50** The Larry Sanders Show **00:20** Hunter **1:05** Lou Grant

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)
10:30 Crazy Safari III (1991) (rpt) **12:10** Happy Birthday Wanda June (1971) (rpt) **13:50** Special: *Nell* with Jodie Foster **14:20** Menu For Murder (1990) (rpt) **15:50** Staying Alive (1983) (rpt) **17:30** Ned Blessing (1991) – Western about a former sheriff who reminisces over his life as he sits now on death row. Starring Daniel Baldwin **19:00** What's New at the Movies **19:10** Field of Dreams (1989) – see Pick of the Flicks **21:00** Duet for One (1986) – tearjerker drama starring Julie Andrews as a violinist at the height of her career who discovers she has multiple sclerosis. (102 mins) **22:45** God Bless The Child (1991) – made-for-TV melodrama about a homeless mother trying to hold her and her daughter's lives together **00:25** Black Rain (1989) (rpt) **2:30** Day of the Locust (1975) – Hollywood of the '30s as seen through the eyes of a young artist. Starring Donald Sutherland. (144 mins)

■ CHILDREN (6)
6:30 Cartoons **9:00** Cartoons **9:35** Muddies **10:00** Cadichon **10:35** Shira **11:05** Punky Brewster **11:40** Beverly Hills 90210 **12:40** Loony Toons **13:00** Cartoons **13:35** The Chipmunks **14:00** Karate **14:35** Pro-stars **15:05** Shira **15:35** Family Ties **16:10** Beverly Hills 90210 **17:10** Loony Toons **17:30** Super Mario **17:45** Hugo **18:05** Muddies **18:30** Cadichon **19:00** Cartoons **19:30** Three's Company **20:00** Married with Children **20:30** Family Matters **20:55** All in the Family **21:25** Law and Order

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)
22:10 Torn Curtain (1966) – Alfred Hitchcock spy thriller about an American nuclear scientist who fakes his defection to the East to get his hands on a secret formula. Staring Paul Newman and Julie Andrews **00:20** The Stars Look Down (1939) – British drama about Welsh coal miners' struggle to improve their working conditions. Starring Michael Redgrave and Margaret Lockwood, directed by Carol Reed (94 mins)

■ DISCOVERY (8)
6:00 Open University: Management and Economics **12:00** Survival **13:00** Beyond 2000 **14:00** Open University **16:00** Survival **17:00** Beyond 2000 **18:00** Open University **20:00** Wild South **21:00** Great Castles of Europe **21:30** Treasure Islands **22:00** First Tuesday **22:30** Word of Mouth **23:00** Wild South **23:50** Open University

■ SUPER CHANNEL
7:00 ITN World News **7:15** US Market Wrap **7:30** Weekly Business **8:00** Today featuring ITN World News and FT Business **10:00** Super Shop **11:00** European Money Wheel **15:00** US Money Wheel **18:30** FT Business Tonight **19:00** Today **20:00** ITN World News Live **20:30** Tycoons **21:30** Jimmy's **22:00** Crime International **22:30** Inside Edition **23:00** ITN World News **23:30** The Tonight Show with Jay Leno **00:30** Real Personal **1:00** FT Business Tonight

■ STAR PLUS
6:00 The Sullivans **6:30** Ciao Italia **7:00** Video Fashion Monthly **7:30** Donahue **8:30** Santa Barbara **9:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **10:00** Oprah Winfrey **11:00** Riviera **11:30** Ciao Italia **12:00** Aerobics **12:30** The Sullivans **13:00** Small Wonder **13:30** Robotech **14:00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles **14:30** Batman **15:00** Home and Away **15:30** Neighbors **16:00** M*A*S*H **16:30** Movie: Ruth Rendell – No More Crying **18:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **19:00** Santa Barbara **20:00** The Twilight Zone **20:30** M*A*S*H **21:00** Remington Steele **22:00** Video Fashion **22:30** Neighbors **23:00** Movie: Supercarrier II **1:00** The Sullivans

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC
6:06 Musical Matinee **9:05** Beethoven and Additions – Beethoven: String quartet in C op 29; M. Reger: Variations and Fugue on theme by Beethoven op 86; Arrangement of movement from Beethoven's Sonata no 21 "Waldstein" (Free Flight) **10:20** Works by Israeli composers **11:05** Works for percussion **13:00** Tabea Zimmerman – Schnittke: Viola concerto; Kopytman: Cantus V for viola and orch; Stravinsky: Elegy for solo viola **14:06** Encore **15:00** Cycle of Works – Beethoven's piano sonatas **16:00** Early music **17:00** Live broadcast from Henry Crown Auditorium, Jerusalem – Noam Buchman (flute), Doron Salomon (guitar), Richard Assias (viola), Irit Assias (cello). Schubert – Quartet for flute, guitar, viola and cello; Shulamit Ran: "Ruah Kadim" for solo flute; Ponce: Sonata for guitar; Schubert: 10 Dances for flute and guitar D365; Roussel: Trio for flute, viola and cello op 40; Villa-Lobos: Jet Whistle for flute and cello **19:00** Rainbow of Sounds **20:05** No details available **21:00** A Matter of Agreement **23:00** Just Jazz

■ RADIO 1
6:06 Hebrew songs **7:00** News in English **7:15** News in French **7:30** Hebrew songs **8:05** Morning Magazine **12:05** Life **13:00** News and program in English **13:30** News and program in French **14:05** Old songs **15:05** Youth program **16:05** Dial **17:00** News in English **17:02** News in French **17:05** Voice of the Arts **18:05** Religious programs **20:00** Evening news – TV broadcast **20:50** Bible portion **21:00** Hazanut **22:05** Advice **23:05** Hebrew songs

■ RADIO 3
Music all day and night

■ REKA
18:00 News in English **18:15** News in French **20:00** News in Russian

■ ARMY RADIO
5:02 Good Morning IDF **6:05** University of the Air – Physics and Metaphysics of Descartes **6:30** Good Morning Israel **7:07** Seven-O-Seven **8:00** Good Morning Israel **9:05** Morning Music **10:05** Right Now **12:50** Today's Entertainment **13:00** Midday News **13:15** It's Uncertain **15:05** Someone to Talk To **16:00** An Hour Before **17:00** Good Evening Israel **18:05** Peace on the Horizon **18:30** Eavesdropping **20:00** Channel 2 news **20:30** Psychology **21:05** Program with Dubi Lentz **22:05** Vitamins **23:05** This Was the Day **00:10** Night Birds **2:00** We Don't Want to Sleep

■ ARMY ON WHEELS
7:05 The State on the Way **9:05** Songs **10:05** Sun **12:05** Air Conditioning **13:05** Something for the Road **14:05** Showers **16:05** Driving Wisely **18:05** Program with Lea Oz **20:05** Below the Belt **22:05** Good Night

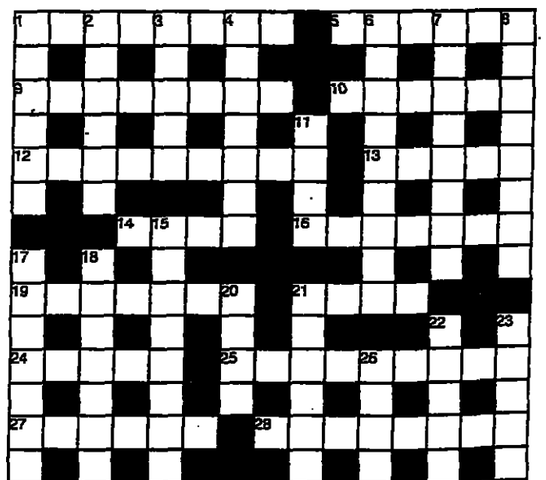
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

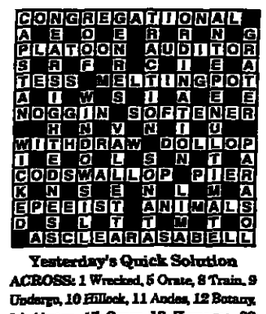
1 A pie-man might be without the right fruit (8)
5 The attitude taken by a virtuous individual standing by an engineer (6)
9 Nobody on the square is really versatile (3-5)
10 High-powered firm (6)
12 Bleat about speed, so it may be found (9)
13 Some households waste a terrible lot, he scoffs (5)
14 A few words added, note, in church (4)
16 To make a point, twist—the French do! (7)
19 A medico, sour perhaps yet loving (7)
21 A painter for example turning in anger (4)
24 Bird-man bringing a charge (5)
25 Drinks finally helping people to sleep tight? (9)
27 An ass over gear-changing (6)
28 Competition is of no interest to certain folk (4,4)
29 Hate to appear half-dead before an examination (6)
30 A good chance to check out (8)

DOWN

1 Left among underwear sets (6)
2 On the water it could be fatal going around duck (6)
3 Low soldiers' poet (5)
4 Despicable lord following a serving man back (7)
6 Those losing heart telephone about the tying up (9)
7 There could be nine to do—possibly twelve (8)
8 Aim to consume Cheddar maybe, though satiated (8)
11 Little Elizabeth's wages (4)
15 The papers holding one quarter show bias (9)
17 Nourishment for persons on a strict diet? (4,4)
18 Agreement to effect a reduction (8)
20 The grit of a writer! (4)
21 Orderly and nurse content to bear up (7)
22 Hurt that makes a mother mature (6)
23 Article on perfume giving a lift (6)
26 Drags youngsters around European capital (5)



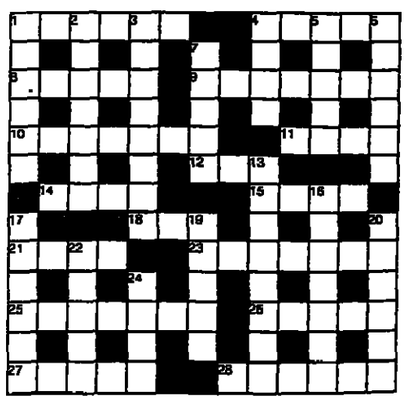
SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Wrecked, 5 Orate, 8 Train, 9 Undergo, 10 Hillock, 11 Andes, 12 Botany, 14 Always, 17 Cover, 19 Humerus, 22 Laggard, 23 Meant, 24 Grebe, 25 Wooster

DOWN: 1 Watch, 2 Epaulet, 3 Kendo, 4 Drunks, 5 Oddball, 6 Acrid, 7 Egoists, 12 Backlog, 13 Narrate, 15 Abreast, 16 Shadow, 18 Vague, 20 Mambo, 21 Sitar



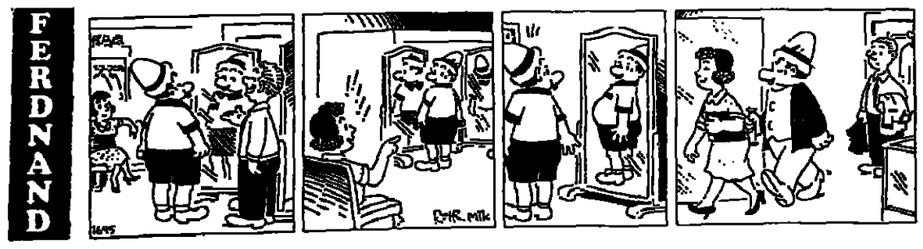
QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Dropped waste (6)
4 Whinny (5)
8 Body (5)
9 Get ready (7)
10 Height (7)
11 Lake (4)
12 Excavate (3)
14 Cereal (4)
15 Peruse (4)
18 As well (3)
21 Head covering (4)
23 Solidify (7)
25 Debar (7)
26 Rub out (5)
27 Funereal music (5)
28 Light wind (6)

DOWN

1 Most up-to-date (6)
2 Hurricane (7)
3 Articulate (8)
4 Require (4)
5 Silly (5)
6 Took notice (6)
7 Rapidity (5)
13 Impressiveness (8)
16 The mean (7)
17 Astute (6)
19 Group of eight (5)
20 Affirm (6)
22 Film award (5)
24 Christmas (4)



Ramon accuses former Histadrut treasurers of illegal transactions

MICHAL YUDELMAN

HISTADRUT Chairman Haim Ramon yesterday accused former Histadrut treasurers Artur Yisraelovitz and Yisrael Ben-Yehuda of illegal financial transactions before the 1994 elections.

The police are now investigating the apparent disappearance of NIS 600,000 from the Histadrut, and the suspicion is that the money was transferred to fictitious companies, or otherwise misappropriated.

The investigation, however, did not stop the Histadrut leadership from pointing the finger at Yisraelovitz and Ben-Yehuda, both of whom have been questioned by the police.

"We know that Ben-Yehuda gave an order to pay NIS 600,000 to a fictitious company for fictitious 'consultations,'" Ramon told the Histadrut executive. "The treasury received the instruction, and Yisraelovitz was responsible for [carrying it out]. We regard these two as responsible for using the money for other [than Histadrut] purposes."

Ramon said that the funds "as far as we know, were transferred from the fictitious company to a detective agency. In an any case, we shall demand that these two people return the money to the Histadrut."

The police raided the Histadrut treasury last week, confiscating hundreds of documents and questioning dozens of senior staffers, including former secretary-general Haim Haberfeld, Labor's Histadrut election campaign head Masha Lubelsky, former treasurers and treasury officials, and incumbent treasurer MK Haim Oron.

Ramon also said the Histadrut comptroller is still probing the affair of the fictitious invoices from the Histadrut company Mifalei Tarbut, and the suspicion that NIS 750,000, transferred from the firm to suppliers, was actually used for election purposes.

Appeal hearing starts today for bankers in shares collapse

EVELYN GORDON

THE Supreme Court today will begin hearing the appeal of several bankers found guilty of causing the 1983 bank shares collapse.

It will be heard at intervals over the next several weeks.

The appellants are IDB Bankholding: its chairman, Raphael Recanati; Recanati's son, Udi, who headed Bank Discount's stock market operations prior to the crash; Eliahu Cohen, then Discount's deputy chairman; former Bank Leumi chairman Ernst Japhet; Mordechai Einhorn, who was chief operations officer of Leumi at the time; former managing director of Bank Mizrahi Aharon Meir; Dov Naveh, who was Mizrahi's comptroller at the time; and Dav Bavli, an independent accountant who audited Leumi's books.

One of the bankers' main claims is that the government had asked them to continue the share manipulation which led to the collapse.

This claim was rejected by Jerusalem District Court Judge Miriam Naor in her verdict.

While Naor agreed that the manipulation was carried out with the knowledge and tacit consent of state regulatory agencies, she said this was not the same as the state actually requesting the manipulation, which might exonerate the bankers.

The bankers are also arguing that they did not have the necessary criminal intent for a conviction, since they began the manipulation without knowing where it would lead, and even after they realized its dangers, they genuinely thought the consequences of stopping would be worse.

Thirdly, they claim the lower court relied on much evidence gathered by the 1986 Bejski Commission of Inquiry. This, they argue, violates the Commission of Inquiry Law.

If their appeal against their convictions fails, the bankers are also appealing against their sentences. Japhet was sentenced to 11 months in prison and a NIS 900,000 fine; Einhorn and Recanati were sentenced to eight months and a NIS 600,000 fine; and Cohen received six months and a NIS 500,000 fine.

The others were sentenced to fines only: NIS 600,000 for Meir, NIS 400,000 for Udi Recanati, NIS 109,000 for Bavli, NIS 90,000 for Naveh, and NIS 1 million for IDB.

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Ramon threatens to quash engineers' organization

Union threatens to break away

MICHAL YUDELMAN

HISTADRUT Chairman Haim Ramon yesterday threatened to dissolve the engineers organization if it breaks off from the Histadrut and forms an independent trade union.

Engineers organization head Yitzhak Raz last week asked the Treasury to transfer directly to it the organization fees paid by the engineers in the public sector. The engineers organization is also looking for new offices, outside the Histadrut building.

The steps taken by the engineers union – one of the country's largest – to break off from the Histadrut could lead to other unions following suit. If so, the Histadrut could be left without income sources, with the trade unions receiving the organization fees from their members' wages.

Ramon warned yesterday that any move the engineers' union makes toward quiting the Histadrut, "will hit them back like a boomerang. They have no right to a single agora from the Treasury, because the organization fees were collected on the basis of the government's agreement with the Histadrut, to which the engineers' organization belongs."

He threatened to act according to the Histadrut constitution, "which authorizes us to dissolve any elected organization which violates the constitution, which it is bound to." Ramon is due to meet the leaders of the engineers union later this week in an effort to bridge the differences.

Until recently, the Histadrut's tax collection bureau collected the organization fees from its members. The fees *(mas ahid)* were divided between the Histadrut and its Kupat Holim, and the Histadrut then allocated funds from its budget to the various trade unions.

Since the advent of the National Health Law, initiated by Ramon, the link between Kupat Holim and the Histadrut has been severed, and the organization fees are collected via the organization tax. The engineers' organization spokesman said yesterday that they do not want to leave the Histadrut at this stage. He added that the organization wants "first to get the money and then to decide whether to transfer it to the Histadrut, or to the workers' unions, and which part of the money."

The engineers' organization's some 30,000 members pay an estimated NIS 55 each in monthly organization fees to the Histadrut. If their union receives the money instead of the Histadrut, the labor federation will lose at least NIS 1.5 million a month.

Meanwhile, the Treasury advised Raz that the organization fees can only be transferred directly to the engineers' organization if it leaves the Histadrut and forms an independent union.



Shoul Eisenberg (right) hands a check for $231,069,556 to Government Companies Authority director Yossi Nitzani (third from right), Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, and Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish, in return for a controlling stake of 24.9 percent in Israel Chemicals (ICL). Nitzani said it is the most important transaction in the government's privatization program. Eisenberg agreed with Shohat and Harish that ICL's headquarters should move to the Negev. (Brian Hendler)

Youth separated from adults at Abu Kabir

RAINE MARCUS

CONDITIONS at the youth wing at the Abu Kabir lock-up have recently improved, and juveniles are now segregated from adults, MK Benny Temkin (Meretz) said after visiting yesterday.

But vast improvements must still be made to accommodate juveniles in suitable conditions, he added.

Temkin, chairman of the Labor and Social Affairs sub-committee on troubled youth, visited the lock-up with representatives of Defense for Children International, which several months ago published a damning report on conditions in the juvenile wing.

Since the report, 30 policemen have been added to the staff, including several officers. Plans are also under way for complete renovations, with each wing designated to a separate story.

Today there are 27 minors in the lock-up, 10 of whom should be in Prisons Service jails. The delegation was told that they will shortly be transferred to a new juvenile wing at Hasharon Prison.

Temkin said that juvenile inmates complained of their treatment by police and of poor food and conditions.

An independent probation officer is currently employed on a part-time basis, and Temkin said he has requested that an additional officer be employed to deal with juvenile inmates' problems. Both should be employed full-time, he said.

Another pressing problem is that of Arab juveniles, Temkin said.

"There is no closed institution for Israeli Arab juveniles," he said. "Although Acre has a budget for such an institution, the mayor objects."

The families of Arab juveniles from the territories are unable to visit them and such inmates are "in limbo," he said.

IDC chairman Philip Veerman complained that juveniles considered a suicide risk are handcuffed because of lack of staff to supervise them.

Suspect arrested in disco murder

Police yesterday arrested a suspect in the stabbing death of border policeman Sharon Hajaj, 21, early Saturday morning outside a Petah Tikva discotheque. The man was arrested as he was about to board a plane at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Hajaj was stabbed once in the heart as he stood outside the Nexus discotheque after an argument broke out between the suspect and doormen there. *Raine Marcus*

Ma'aleh Ephraim officials questioned

BILL HUTMAN

MA'ALEH Ephriam council head Haim Aviv and former council treasurer Merom Maskovitz were question by police yesterday concerning allegations they stole money from the settlement.

Officers with the National Fraud Squad questioned the two for over five hours at its Petah Tikva headquarters, police sources said.

Police had considered holding the two, but decided to release them pending completion of the investigation, the sources said.

Maskovitz last week resigned from his post, after police opened an initial investigation. Aviv, who last week said he welcomed the investigation to clear his name, is also reportedly considered resigning.

'Police never probed GSS leaks in Deri case'

BILL HUTMAN

ALLEGED General Security Service leaks in the fraud case against former interior minister Aryeh Deri were not previously investigated, senior police sources said yesterday, contrary to claims made Friday by Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz.

One source said investigators in the Deri case never told their superiors that GSS agents may have warned Deri and other defendants that their phone conversations were being tapped.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin announced to the cabinet that Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair has begun an "intensive investigation" into the leaks.

Ya'acov Terner, who was police inspector-general during most of the Deri investigation, said he just learned of the alleged GSS leaks.

"I never heard anything about it until it became public in the media," Terner said. He declined to comment further, saying the matter is under inquiry.

The alleged GSS leaks came to light through tapes introduced last week in the Deri trial. On one of the tapes, co-defendant Moshe Weinberg tells state's witness Ya'acov Shmuelevitz that a GSS agent told him his phone was being tapped.

The police sources said investigators case apparently did not take Weinberg's statement seriously.

Hefetz over the weekend told reporters "everything was known and reported. There were discussions about the tapes' content and what should be done about it.

"Nothing was lost by [the police] or anyone else who needed to know about it. What was decided was decided. Even the decision not to do anything, or to only do certain things, was taken after much consideration," Hefetz said.

But senior officers said Hefetz, who assumed his post after the Deri investigation was completed, was misinformed. No inquiry was made into the leaks, discovered about five years ago, they said.

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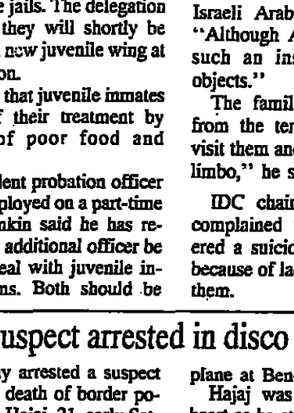
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This drill will not affect flight times in any way.
Spokesman's Bureau

Knesset approves appointments of new ministers

LIAT COLLINS

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